Page, Norman, trans.

"Old Chinese Folk Song,"

The China Journal of Science & Arts,
Vol. III, No. 9 (September, 1925), p. 484
1.

Food is good to eat, but cultivating fields is hard:
Hard to live, hard to live. \textit{(Refrain after each line)}
We say we won't sing songs, but still we do:
Cherries are nice to eat, but the trees are hard to plant:
Cakes are good to eat, but flour is hard to grind.

2.

In the first Moon, flowers you want to gather, but none there are to pluck:
In the second Moon, flowers you want to gather and they are just beginning to bloom.
In the third Moon Peach blossoms open in a thousand clusters:
In the fourth Moon the Cinnamon Rose opens on the trellis work.

3.

In the fifth Moon the Pomegranates are as red as fire:
In the sixth Moon the Lotus flowers spread over the pools:
In the seventh Moon the Tuber Rose opens out with taper fingers:
In the eighth Moon the Cassia flowers fill the air with fragrance.

4.

In the ninth Moon Chrysanthemums are found in every home:
In the tenth Moon the Poppy blossoms as the Peony:
In the eleventh and twelveth Moons of flowers there are none to gather:
But from the snow there blossoms forth the Prunus flower.
1 白飯好
2 累活活
3 唱歌又
4 吃樹
5 無花
6 紅
7 花
8 雞
9 單
10 慕
11 橡
12 花
13 萊
14 蕾
15 梅