

A SCARECROW QUARTETTE

Setting: The setting for this musical novelty can be made as simple or as elaborate as one desires. If presented on a stage or platform corn and grain shucks, autumn leaves, dry hay, vines, pumpkins and other tokens of the harvest season can be effectively used. A moon and rustic fence also have their places.

Costumes: Members of the quartette are costumed in old clothes with hay protruding from holes and patches in their clothing. Arms and hands extend straight out to the sides. If the group is to sing for a very long time this posture is difficult to hold, so it is advisable to give each singer a broom handle or wooden, narrow stick which can be inserted through both coat sleeves to serve as an arm rest.

Action: At the beginning of the act a clock might loudly strike 12. If you have access to a stage the clock could chime before the parting curtain discloses the full setting, the effect of which is greatly improved by proper lighting. One by one each scarecrow shows some sign of life. They might very briefly discuss the boredom and disgust they experienced in standing still day after day. This eventually leads to a suggestion that they break forth in song. They proceed to sing such favorite melodies as "Evening in the Moonlight," "It's Always Fair Weather, When Good Fellows Get Together," "Hail, Hail, the Gang's all Here," and others. You might find someone in your midst who is good at parodies. The following songs may suggest possibilities of this nature.
Tune: "Way Down Yonder in the Corn Field"

1st Scarecrow: Oh, some folks call me Scarecrow Sam,
All Way down yonder in the corn field.
2nd scarecrow: Well, my name's Wild Bill, so it am,
All Way down yonder in the corn field.
3rd scarecrow: We stand and we stand and we stand all day
All Way down yonder in the corn field.
4th scarecrow: To scarecrow racketeers away
All Way down yonder in the corn field.
Chorus by all: Way down, way down, way down yonder in the
corn field.
1st: We've slaved and slaved since we were born,
2nd: To uphold the standards of this corn,
3rd: But now we scarecrows have our day
4th: For we have joined the P.T.A.
Chorus by all: way down, way down, way down yonder in the
corn field.

Tune: "In the Evening by the Moonlight"
In the evening by the moonlight; all we scarecrows get together,
For our Scarecrows' Union it must meet, no matter what the
weather
Then we talk of world conditions, farm relief, and price
inflation

As we meet in the evening by the moonlight.

In conclusion there might be the sound of an automobile
horn. The scarecrows listen and one or all join in saying,

"sh-h-h, here comes the boss. I know his horn". They again
grow motionless. The act is ended.

Copied: From the National Association Recreation.