

# THE APPLE ORCHARD

**This famous routine was performed  
by British ventriloquist Johnson Clark  
along with his figure Hodge  
in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.**

**Clark filmed this routine for British Pathé in 1938.  
The video is available at ...**

**[www.britishpathe.com](http://www.britishpathe.com)**

**1256.12      JOHNSON CLARK (1:16:26:00 - 1:20:18:00) 16/06/1938**

Summary: Famous ventriloquist Clark Johnson argues with his puppets.

Description: Studio.

A puppet is sitting on a bench with an apple in his hand. A man comes and starts arguing with a 'boy' over apples from man's orchard which the boy steals with his friends but resolve the problem in the end. A man is the famous ventriloquist Clark Johnson.

Duration of    0:03:52:00  
Clip:



**edited by Bob Albano**

## **The Apple Orchard**

**CLARK:**     **Hello!**  
                  **So that's where my apples are going to.**  
                  **You young rascal!**  
                  **Do you know what happens to boys who rob orchards?**

**HODGE:**     **Yes, sir. They get stomach-aches.**

**C:**     **You're quite right.**  
          **You can get into very serious trouble eating my apples.**

**H:**     **Yes, I know that, sir.**

**C:**     **You know that?**

**H:**     **Yes, sir.**

**C:**     **How did you know?**

**H:**     **Inside information.**

**C:**     **Well, I'm surprised at you.**  
          **How many apples have you had?**

**H:**     **Only nine.**

**C:**     **Only nine?**

**H:**     **Yes, thank you.**

**C:**     **(takes apple out of Hodge's hand)**  
          **And what's this?**

**H:**     **That's the tenth.**  
          **I can't eat that one.**

**C:**     **I should think not.**  
          **Have you any more?**

**H:**     **No, sir.**  
          **That's the last one.**

**C:**     **That's the last one?**

**H:** Can I go now?

**C:** Wait a minute!  
(opens left side Hodge's coat and finds another apple)

**H:** Oh, dear!

**C:** I thought you said that was the last one?

**H:** Yes, sir.

**C:** What about this?

**H:** Well, that's an extra one, sir.  
How did that get there?

**C:** You know how it got there.

**H:** Do you think it fell in?

**C:** Have any more fallen in the other pockets?

**H:** No, sir.  
I should know if they had.  
No, I haven't got another.  
Can I go, quick?

**C:** Wait a minute!

**H:** Oh, dear!  
(Clark taps on the right side of Hodge's jacket,  
where there is a noticeable bulge)  
Oh, he's seen it.

**C:** What's under your coat?

**H:** What?

**C:** What's under your coat?

**H:** (nervous laugh)  
Me shirt.

**C:** Now, now!  
You know what I'm talking about.  
What's that lump?

**(Clark begins to reach under Hodge's coat)**

**H:     (excited)  
        Don't touch it!  
        Don't touch it!  
        Oh, crikey!**

**Clark reaches to open coat**

**H:     (even more excited)  
        Don't touch it!**

**C:     All right!  
        What have you got there?**

**H:     I've got a tumor.**

**C:     I've never heard such nonsense in my life.**

**(Clark reaches into jacket and pulls two apples out)**

**H:     Oh, dear!  
        I said I've got two more.**

**C:     Why do you suppose I grow these beautiful apples for?**

**H:     I don't know, sir.  
        It is good of you.**

**C:     I can't understand you boys at all.**

**H:     No one can now.  
        It's sickening.**

**C:     Why didn't you come around and ask me for some apples?**

**H:     'cause I wanted some.**

**C:     Yesterday on my favorite tree: twenty-seven beautiful apples.  
        This morning only one.  
        How do you account for that?**

**H:     We didn't see that one, sir.**

**C:     Really! I don't what you boys are all coming to.**

**H:** I think they're all coming to your orchard.

**C:** You do.  
You let me catch any more there.  
Is this the first time you've been?

**H:** Yes, sir – the first time today.

**C:** Did you go there alone?

**H:** No, sir.  
I was encouraged.

**C:** I'm sorry to hear that.  
Who went with you?

**H:** Two more young gentlemen.

**C:** Young gentlemen!

**H:** Well, they had collars on.

**C:** Will you tell me the names of these young gentlemen?

**H:** Yes, sir. Streaky and Dizzy.

**C:** Why do you call him Dizzy?

**H:** (quick laugh)  
He's got a screw loose.

**C:** I'm very sorry to hear that.

**H:** Poor old Dizzy.  
He didn't get any apples.

**C:** No?

**H:** No! Could I take him a few?

**C:** Certainly not.  
You let Dizzy come back and ask me for a few apples.

**H:** Oh, he's not so dizzy as that.

**C:** And what do they call you?

**H:** Hodge.

**C:** Hodge?  
You're not Hodge of Windmill Farm?

**H:** I am.

**C:** Then you're the boy that's been writing me for a situation.

**H:** Yes, sir.  
You told me to call.

**C:** Did I say call in my orchard?

**H:** No, sir.  
That was my idea.  
And when I got over the wall ...

**C:** Just a minute?  
How did you get over the wall?  
Ten feet high.

**H:** We used a ladder

**C:** You brought your own ladder?

**H:** No, we used yours.  
When we've got over ...

**C:** Yes?

**H:** Your dog came.

**C:** Ha-ha! That stopped your game.

**H:** It didn't. Ha-ha!

**C:** Well, I don't know how you got passed the dog.

**H:** (short laugh) We do.

**C:** I wished I did.

**H:** We brought a black cat with us for luck.

**C:** A black cat?

**H:** Yes, sir. Your dog started to chase it and he hasn't come back yet.

**C:** (laughs) Well, I don't know what to do with you.

**H:** Thank you, sir.

**C:** Of course, I know boys will be boys.

**H:** Well, they can't be girls.

**C:** What?  
And I mustn't forget I was once a boy myself.

**H:** We're you?

**C:** (laughs) They were good old days.

**H:** Have any good old nights?

**C:** (laughs) I often wish I were a boy again now.

**H:** I wish you were.

**C:** Thank you!

**H:** Two years younger than me for five minutes.

**C:** Heh! You young rascal!  
Well, look here. Are you sorry?

**H:** Yes, sir.

**C:** And you'll never let me catch you in my orchard again.

**H:** Not if I can help it. Dizzy's turn is next.

**C:** All right! Let's say no more about it.  
Good-bye, my lad!

**H:** Good-bye, sir!

**C:** Good-bye!