

# **BROTHER, CAN YOU SPARE A DIME?**

**(E. Y. HARBURG/JAY GORNEY) (1932)**

**As sung by Bing Crosby**

They used to tell me I was building a dream  
And so I followed the mob.  
When there was earth to plow or guns to bear,  
I was always there, right on the job.  
They used to tell me I was building a dream  
With peace and glory ahead --  
Why should I be standing in line, just waiting for bread?

Once I built a railroad, I made it run,  
Made it race against time.  
Once I built a railroad, now it's done --  
Brother, can you spare a dime?

Once I built a tower, up to the sun,  
brick and rivet and lime.  
Once I built a tower, now it's done --  
Brother, can you spare a dime?

Once in khaki suits, gee, we looked swell  
Full of that Yankee Doodle-de-dum.  
Half a million boots went slogging through hell,  
And I was the kid with the drum.

Say, don't you remember they called me Al,  
It was Al all the time.  
Why don't you remember, I'm your pal --  
Say, buddy, can you spare a dime?

Once in khaki suits, ah, gee, we looked swell  
Full of that Yankee Doodle-de-dum.  
Half a million boots went slogging through hell,  
And I was the kid with the drum.

Say, don't you remember they called me Al,  
It was Al all the time.  
Why don't you remember, I'm your pal --  
Buddy, can you spare a dime?