

I do not know enough social history to be able to say when the democratization of sweets began. Sweets can scarcely have become the universal food of children while sugar remained an expensive luxury, as it did, apparently, until the eighteenth century.) There were sweets in Shakespeare days, but I doubt whether the children of the poor often tasted the marchpane and kissing comfits, which are mentioned in his plays.) There were, we are told, no confectioners, as we now know them, till the nineteenth century. Until then sweet making was in the hands of druggists which suggests that the ancestor of all those delicacies that are eaten today in defiance of the laws of health was that medical utility the cough-drop. (Words: 124)

Precis

Before the eighteenth century, it does not seem possible that sweets should have become the universal food of children. Moreover, the sweet-making process was handled by the druggiest before the nineteenth century. Therefore the cough-drop was the real ancestor of sweets.

Title: History of sweets