

Parke-Davis Medicated Throat Discs: Chloroforming That Throat “Tickle”

PARKE-DAVIS
Medicated
Throat Discs

A REMEDIAL AGENT
Not a mere "cough drop" or confection

Efficient in the treatment
of coughs due to colds,
hoarseness, irritation of the
throat, etc.

Each Disc contains not more than
1/2 minim of CHLOROFORM
Free from injurious drugs.

PARKE, DAVIS & CO.
Detroit, Mich., U.S.A.

60
DISCS
25¢

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1/2 minim of CHLOROFORM
Free from injurious drugs.

Formulated with capsicum, peppermint, anise, cubeb, licorice, linseed, acacia, and sugar, each Parke-Davis Medicated Throat Disc included 0.5 minim or roughly 0.03 ml of chloroform (*lower right*). This half-drop of chloroform provided some topical relief but also served as a solvent for the other “herbs and spices.” Targeting “singers, speakers, and smokers,” the box (*upper left*) for these throat discs promised relief from “coughs due to colds, hoarseness, and that annoying ‘tickle’ in the throat.” By 1976, the Food and Drug Administration was directing that all drugs containing chloroform be removed from sale, so this particular formulation ... evaporated. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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