

## Sweetmeats (1907)

- Here is a good example of syncopation; a very simple arrangement of *Sweetmeats*, written by Percy Wenrich in 1907 (aged 27)
- His first ragtime piece was written at age 17. It was called *L'Inconnu*, which means unknown, unfamiliar or strange – an appropriate description of ragtime. Percy described it as "a two-step with a fancy title." The two-step was a dance. And people danced to ragtime.
- *Sweetmeats* is not slang for anything. It means candied fruit, such as sugar plums or candied orange peels



## Percy Wenrich (1880-1952)

- ❖ born in Joplin, Missouri, studied music in Chicago
- ❖ moved to New York City around 1907 to work as a Tin Pan Alley composer
- ❖ married a vaudeville performer and they toured together for many years
- ❖ composed at least 18 rags
- ❖ best known for his popular music and worked with a number of talented lyricists
- ❖ *Sweetmeats* (1907) *Crab Apples* (1908)

