

THE STORY OF SUGAR

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The story of sugar by George Thomas Surface

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GEORGE THOMAS SURFACE

**THE STORY
OF SUGAR**



DISTRIBUTION OF SUGAR BEET AND SUGAR CANE AREAS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE STORY OF SUGAR

BY

GEORGE THOMAS SURFACE, Ph.D., M.Sc.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY, SHEFFIELD
SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL OF YALE UNIVERSITY



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P R E F A C E

EXCEPTING the technical and trade literature, very little has been written on the world's sugar industry, and yet no commodity of commerce has had a more varied, interesting, and significant history. This volume is intended to convey accurate and readable information on the industry in the different periods and stages of its development. Although it is primarily designed for the general reader, the study is replete with facts and economic deductions which will make it a valuable source of reference in any course on industries or commerce.

The exploitation of no other product has so influenced the political history of the western world, and in the United States it holds the unique position of having ushered in an era of corporation development and control unprecedented in the history of the world. We have led the sugar-consuming countries of the earth in the variety of ways in which sugar is used as a staple article of

PREFACE

food, and are only exceeded by Great Britain in the per capita consumption. The story of sugar which follows places due emphasis on the conspicuous position of this country, both past and present, as a producer, consumer, and distributor. Naturally, the beet-sugar industry receives special consideration from the standpoint of future prospects, since this must be regarded as an infant industry in the light of its rapid growth during the past two decades.

I acknowledge with thanks the information and suggestions of the following: The State Departments of Agriculture and the Agricultural Experimental Stations of the cane and beet-growing states; the Editors of the *Louisiana Planter* and the *American Sugar Industry and Beet-Sugar Gazette*; and Professors J. Russell Smith and Walter Sheldon Tower, of the University of Pennsylvania. I am personally indebted to my father, Rev. F. D. Surface, for his valuable and painstaking assistance in proof-reading.

GEORGE THOMAS SURFACE.

Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University,
New Haven, Conn., May, 1910.

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