



The Carbohydrate Economy of Cacti (Classic Reprint) (Hardback)

By Herman Augustus Spoehr

Forgotten Books, 2017. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from The Carbohydrate Economy of Cacti The best evidence gained since the time of Sachs points to the conclusion that sugars are the first products which accumulate in the process of the photosynthesis of carbon compounds in the chlorophyllous cell. Thus, sugars may be considered the starting-point for the synthesis of the tremendous number of substances found in living things, both vegetable and animal. What the sugar or mixture of sugars is which thus commands the center of attention in the metabolism of plants and of almost all living things is still a question of much dispute and uncertainty; nor does the solution of this problem seem possible until we have gained more knowledge of the transformations which the various sugars undergo in the cell, independent of photosynthesis. It has long been known that in the leaf, under circumstances, the polysaccharides are converted into the simpler sugars and vice versa, by what appears to be the shifting of an equilibrium by means of enzyme action. It is self-evident that a knowledge of these transformations must be obtained before the problem...

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