Walter S. Sutton Encyclopedia Article

Walter S. Sutton

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1877-1916

American molecular biologist who laid the foundation for the chromosomal theory of heredity—a science that has altered the lives of humans, animals, and plants. He worked under Clarence McClung, who discovered the sex-determining chromosome, while obtaining his master's degree at the University of Kansas. His most important work, *The Chromosomes in Heredity*, was published in 1903.