Suit Claims
Price Fixing
For Sugar

CHICAGO—(AP)—Five major sugar refiners and an association of sugar-beet growers have been accused of price fixing in a suit filed by Illinois Atty. Gen. William J. Scott.

The suit, filed Monday in U.S. District Court, seeks unspecified damages for Illinois retail sugar buyers and commercial buyers including candy, bakery goods manufacturers and chewing-gum firms.

Named as defendants were Great Western Sugar Co., Denver; Holly Sugar Co., Colorado Springs, Colo.; California and Hawaiian Sugar Co., San Francisco; American Crystal Sugar Co., dissolved in June 1973 and succeeded by the American Crystal Sugar Co., Fargo, N.D.; Amalgamated Sugar Co., Ogden, Utah, and the National Sugar beet Growers Federation, Greeley, Colo.

The defendants, Scott said, processed and sold refined sugar in a market known as Chicago-West. The area embraces states lying west to the Rocky Mountains, plus Illinois.

He estimated that in 1972, Chicago-West sales of sugar totaled $770 million and the defendants sold 33 per cent of the total.

During 1974, sugar prices quadrupled nationwide, and the federal government has launched an investigation into the industry.