Then we do not know what a "cell" really means, or why the kidney, for instance, is subdivided into such units. Possibly the cell wall is the border line of the common energy levels.

Biochemistry is, at present, in a peculiar state. By means of our active substances we can produce the most astounding biological reactions, but we fail wherever a real explanation of molecular mechanisms is wanted. It looks as if some basic fact about life were still missing, without which any real understanding is impossible. It may be that the knowledge of common energy levels will start a new period in biochemistry, taking this science into the realm of quantum-mechanics.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

FELLOWSHIPS OF THE LALOR FOUNDATION

THE Board of Trustees of the Lalor Foundation announced on May 19 the following fellowship awards in chemical and biochemical research for the academic year 1941–42:

$2,000 to Frederick W. Barnes, Jr., to work at Columbia University under Dr. Hans T. Clarke on the investigation of intermediary metabolism with the aid of isotopes.

$2,500 to A. Calvin Bratton, to continue work at the Johns Hopkins University Medical School under Dr. E. K. Marshall on chemical aspects of chemotherapy of compounds of the sulfanilamide type. (This award is for $1,250 per year for a period of 2 years, namely, for 1941–42 and 1942–43.)

$2,000 to Robert B. Carlin, to work at the University of Illinois under Dr. Roger Adams on the determination of the structure of the alkaloid extracted from Crotalaria spectabilis and of analogous alkaloids from various Senecio species.

$2,000 to William W. Rice, to work at Harvard University under Dr. A. B. Lamb on a theoretical and experimental investigation on the adsorption of gases on various materials.

These appointees were selected from a group of approximately thirty qualified applicants.

Including the present appointments there have been thirty fellowship awards granted since the organization of the foundation in 1935 amounting to an aggregate of $63,500.

Appointments to two awards allotted, respectively, to the administration of Dr. F. G. Keyes, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Dr. Charles A. Kraus, of Brown University, were deferred until conclusion of the special work they are carrying on for the United States Government and until such time as their regular research can again be taken up.

The trustees of the Lalor Foundation, which is maintained through funds contributed by members of the Lalor family, are Dr. Anna Lalor Burdick, of Washington, D. C., Elwyn Evans, John P. Nields, Charles Lee Reese, Jr., Dr. A. R. Shands and C. Lalor Burdick, of Wilmington, and Dallas S. Townsend, of New York City.

THE ENGINEERS COUNCIL FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE eighth annual report of the Engineers Council for Professional Development has appeared. Listed in this report are the one hundred and twenty-five institutions in the United States (and Alaska) that have been accredited by the council.

John P. H. Perry, of New York City, chairman of the Council, records the affiliation of the Engineering Institute of Canada, in October, 1940. He reports also the petition from a group of technical institutes that some such plan of accrediting be evolved for the technical institutes of the country, thus giving more effective recognition to their sphere in technical education.

The Committee on Student Selection and Guidance, of which Dean Emeritus R. L. Sackett, of Pennsylvania State College, is chairman, reports further progress in the study of aptitude tests and, especially, advance in the promotion of proper selection of engineering as a career by high-school boys. It contains excerpts from summaries of activities submitted by local groups of engineers, in New York, Omaha, Detroit, Iowa and Canada, whose aim was not to recruit to engineering, but to give boys of high-school age an opportunity to learn the qualities and aptitudes essential to success. Thus, those with decided engineering talent will continue in this field while those without sufficient aptitude will not undertake a career in engineering should they be more likely to succeed elsewhere.

Dean A. A. Potter, of Purdue University, for the Committee on Engineering Schools, discusses the problems of accrediting and gives statistics on the subject since the initiation of the accrediting program. Included with this report is the latest list of accredited engineering curricula.

The Committee on Professional Training, Dean O. W. Eshbach, of Northwestern University, chairman, reports further efforts to discover what is being done by and for junior engineers in their immediate postgraduation period, and includes as an appendix a questionnaire used to gather information on this subject. This will be used as the basis of a program to be developed for use among the various organizations.