

inhibition as established in the process of catechol and hydroquinone oxidation by GILEADI (1971).

We found in agreement with this fact that a product was formed on Pt electrode in the course of anodic oxidation, which inhibited electrochemical processes and which could be reduced in the cathodic part of the curve at -0.400 to -0.500 mV. VLČEK *et al.* (1949) reported that a protracted wave was formed after the oxidation of gallic acid by atmospheric oxygen which resembled in its form the peroxide wave at 0.7 V (SCE). Thus our finding is in agreement with their data. However, it is not known which compound is reduced at more negative potentials (-0.8 to 1.0 V against MSE). It either may be the above mentioned reduction wave reported by VLČEK *et al.* (1949), or we can accept the opinion that the first wave at 0.475 mV is the wave of reduction of quinone compounds by the enzyme and that the second wave is the wave of reduction of their dimers as also pointed out by VLČEK *et al.* (1949). This opinion is supported by the finding that a product is formed on Pt electrode which can be reduced at -0.400 to -0.500 mV (MSE).

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BOOK REVIEW

BAKER, G. R.: CHEMISTRY OF THE CELL. Second Ed. — Edward Arnold Publ. Net £ 2.75 (UK Price).

The new edition of Chemistry of the Cell gives a brief outline of the main branches of biochemistry and the methods used in studying the chemistry of living systems. The booklet includes techniques which provide detailed information concerning the structures of proteins, carbohydrates and the nucleic acids, and the reactions they undergo.

The second edition comprises materials indicating new interpretations of the functions of lipids and the ways in which, together with proteins, they effect selective diffusion through membranes. The mechanisms of the generation of ATP through oxidation of coenzymes in the respiratory chain are introduced. The chapter devoted to the questions of biochemistry of genetics explains and illustrates the development of experimental methods referred to as genetic engineering.

The book provides a readable overview of the subject of biochemistry. It is suitable first of all for students for whom this subject is not the main field of study.

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