differentiation of the cells, is attained by the time the embryo reaches the late neural groove stage of development. This is precisely the period when the chorio-vitelline placenta becomes well established. However, after the placenta is established, the maintenance of pregnancy is largely taken over by the chorionic gonadotrophins produced by the placenta. The regression of the corpus luteum after this stage, specially with respect to cytological changes leading to the cells becoming nearly defunct as secretory cells, is evidently due to a switch over of the function of maintenance of pregnancy from the corpus luteum to the placenta. Hence, the luteal cells become rapidly reduced in size and lose all their vacuolations and cytological characteristics of secretory cells.

The occupation of the entire ovary by the corpus luteum beyond preganancy and during the early stages of the succeeding pregnancy in *Rousettus leschenaulti* is an unique adaptation in this bat to bring about a physiological alternation of the two ovaries in successive cycles since this bat breeds twice in quick succession in a year. Such a mechanism has not been known to exist in any other mammal.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

WORKSHOP ON BIOELECTROCHEMISTRY

Bioelectrochemistry is an interdisciplinary subject; it covers the application of electrochemistry to fundamental problems of biological and biomedical areas. It is having close relationship to bioelectromagnetism. It examines the events occurring in living bodies (redox reactions, membrane phenomena, transmission and information and repair of damaged tissues). The biological events occurring from the point of view of morphologies are of vital importance. The biological events are examined from a physico-chemical view point—kinetic and molecular basis. Examples of this class are the respiratory chain, (combustion in living organisms at the expense of appropriately transported atmospheric oxygen of biological materials) hereditary mechanisms etc.

With a view to bringing together researchers working in the above fields and to motivate younger researchers through experimentation and discussion, 'The Society for Advancement of Electrochemical Science and Technology' (Bombay Chapter) is organizing a workshop on Bioelectrochemistry during *February 19–20, 1987* at Nehru Science Centre, Bombay. It will be useful for researchers in Universities, Colleges, Medical Colleges and Hospitals. The following topics will be covered by scientists from India as well as from abroad: (a) Energetics of biological redox reactions, (b) Electronmotive and protonmotive biological system and their equivalent circuits, (c) Electrical activity in biological functions and (d) Applied aspects of bioelectrochemistry.

The practical sessions on some of the above topics will also be arranged.

Further details may be had from: Prof. K. S. V. Santhanam, Convener, Chemical Physics Group, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Homi Bhabha Road, Bombay 400 005.