

Schiff Bases. Part II.† Some Ketimines prepared by Decarboxylation of α -Amino-acids in the Presence of Ketones and their Reaction and that of Aldimines with Phenyl Isocyanate

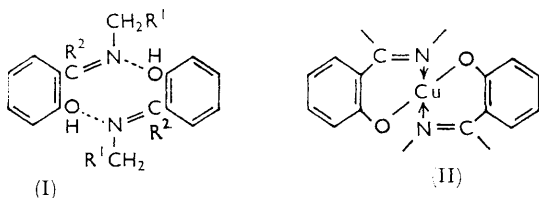
By A. F. Al-Sayyab, A. Lawson,* and J. O. Stevens, Department of Chemistry, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, London W.C.1

Some ketimines prepared by thermal decarboxylation of amino-acids in the presence of aromatic ketones, or directly from the corresponding amines, are described. In the case of β -hydroxy-amines, ring closure takes place to give oxazolidines. Aromatic ketimines derived from *o*-hydroxyacetophenone react with phenyl isocyanate to give coumarin derivatives. Aldimines prepared from *o*- and *p*-hydroxy- and -methoxy-substituted benzaldehydes react with phenyl isocyanate to give *s*-triazine derivatives.

WHEN α -amino-acids are heated with carbonyl compounds the first formed carboxylated Schiff bases undergo decarboxylation to give the Schiff bases or ketimines of the corresponding amines. We have prepared a number of these derived from aromatic ketones, directly from the amino-acids and also from the corresponding amines. In many cases it was advantageous to start with the amino-acid, since the reaction temperatures when amines were used were above the boiling points of the amines.

These Schiff bases were very weak bases, and gave neither hydrochlorides nor picrates in all but a few cases. With the exception of the compound obtained from 2,2'-dimethoxybenzophenone and phenylalanine, only those from *o*-hydroxyacetophenone and benzophenones with an *o*-hydroxy-substituent were obtained crystalline. The u.v. absorption spectra of these were comparable with those of the acetophenone derivatives previously described¹ and showed maxima in the range 2540—3900 Å which were absent in the spectra of the secondary amines prepared from them by hydrogenation of the C=N bond. Lysine, as expected, gave the di-Schiff base and showed anomalous behaviour in its u.v. absorption spectrum, as did the Schiff bases derived from 2,4-dihydroxybenzophenone (Table 1).

The i.r. absorption spectra showed broad maxima at about 2500 cm^{-1} , which, according to Heinert and Martell² are due to intermolecular hydrogen bonding as shown in (I). This absorption band was absent in the



spectra of the corresponding *O*-methylated compounds, most of which were non-crystalline oils at room temperature, and in those of the copper co-ordination complexes (II).

The C=N absorption band in the i.r. spectra normally to

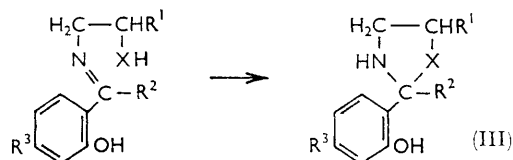
† Part I, A. F. Al-Sayyab and A. Lawson, preceding Paper.

¹ M. Abella, R. P. Ossorio, and V. Sanchez del Olmo, *Anales real Soc. españ. Fis. Quím.*, 1964, **60**, 17 (*Chem. Abs.*, 1964, **61**, 10,569).

² D. Heinert and A. E. Martell, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1962, **84**, 3257.

be found³ in the range 1690—1635 cm^{-1} occurred at 1600—1620 cm^{-1} . This shift may have been caused by conjugation with the aromatic ring.²

The β -hydroxy-amino-acids, serine, phenylserine and threonine, when decarboxylated in the presence of aromatic ketones, gave crystalline products which yielded picrates and unstable hydrochlorides. These substances were also obtainable from the corresponding amines. Their u.v. absorption spectra had no distinct band in the 2600 Å region analogous to that shown by the derivatives of non-hydroxylated amino-acids, but showed a plateau at about 2300—2650 Å. The i.r. spectra indicated no intermolecular hydrogen bonding, but intramolecular bonding was suggested by the absorption band at 3200 cm^{-1} . There was no indication of alcoholic OH absorption normally to be expected at 3625 cm^{-1} . Their lower R_F values on silica gel confirmed their basicity to be greater than that of the corresponding derivatives from non-hydroxylated amino-acids. They were also much more resistant to hydrogenation. Taking these factors into consideration we have proposed for them oxazolidine structures (III; $R^1 = \text{H, Me, or Ph}$, $R^2 = \text{Me or Ph}$, $R^3 = \text{H or OMe}$, $X = \text{O}$). Analogous compounds have been obtained from ethanolamine by use of aliphatic ketones⁴ and substituted benzaldehydes,⁵ but the proposed oxazolidine structure was later questioned.⁶



Hydrolysis of these oxazolidines readily gave the corresponding hydroxy-amines and ketones. Under mild conditions, cysteine behaved in an analogous manner with acetophenone and *o*-methoxyacetophenone and gave the thiazolidines (III; $X = \text{S}$). With 2,4-dihydroxyacetophenone, oxidation took place to give the di-Schiff base corresponding to cysteine.

³ A. D. Cross, 'Practical Infra-Red Spectroscopy,' Butterworth, London, 1960.

⁴ A. C. Cope and E. M. Hancock, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1942, **64**, 1503.

⁵ L. H. Goodson and H. Christopher, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1949, **71**, 1117.

⁶ G. E. McCasland and E. C. Horswill, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1951, **73**, 3923.

TABLE I
Schiff bases obtained by decarboxylation of amino-acids with ketones

| Ketone | Decarb- oxylation temp. | M. p. | Yield (%) | Found (%) | | | Required (%) | | | Formula | Schiff base | $\lambda_{\max.}$ (Å) | Log ϵ | $\nu_{\max.}$ |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|--------------|-----------|------|------|--------------|------|------|---|---|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| | | | | C | H | N | C | H | N | | | | | |
| DL-Phenylglycine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxy-aceto-phenone | 215° | 125° | 80 | 80.4 | 6.6 | | 80.0 | 6.7 | | C ₁₅ H ₁₃ NO | <i>N</i> -[1-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-ethylidene]benzylamine * | 2540 | 3.73 | 2490 1610 |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxy-benzo-phenone | 220 | 78 | 78 | | | 4.8 | | 4.8 | | C ₂₀ H ₁₇ NO | <i>N</i> -[α -(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-benzylidene]benzylamine | 2600 | 5.63 | |
| 2,2'-Dihydroxybenzo-phenone | 220 | 192 | 75 | 79.4 | 5.7 | | 79.2 | 5.6 | | C ₂₀ H ₁₇ NO ₂ | <i>N</i> -[<i>o</i> -Hydroxy- α -(<i>o</i> -hydroxyphenyl)benzylidene]benzylamine * | 2600 | 4.1 | 2500 1605 |
| 2,4-Dihydroxybenzo-phenone | 178 | 218 | 70 | 79.3 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 79.2 | 5.6 | 4.6 | C ₂₀ H ₁₇ NO ₂ | <i>N</i> -[α -(2,4-Dihydroxyphenyl)benzylidene]-benzylamine | 3100 | 4.1 | |
| DL- β -Phenylalanine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxy-aceto-phenone | 210 | 142 | 80 | 69.3 | 6.6 | | 69.6 | 6.5 | | C ₁₆ H ₁₇ NO, HCl | <i>N</i> -[1-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-ethylidene]phenethylamine, HCl | 2720 | 4.0 | |
| 2,2'-Dihydroxybenzo-phenone | 185 | 185 | 81 | 78.8 | 5.9 | | 79.5 | 5.9 | | C ₂₁ H ₁₉ NO ₂ | <i>N</i> -[Di-(<i>o</i> -hydroxyphenyl)-methylene]phenethylamine | 2600 | 4.84 | |
| 2,4-Dihydroxybenzo-phenone | 190 | 235 | 75 | | | 4.3 | | 4.4 | | C ₂₁ H ₁₉ NO ₂ | <i>N</i> -[α -(2,4-Dihydroxyphenyl)benzylidene]-phenethylamine | 3100 | 4.01 | |
| 2,2'-Dimethoxybenzo-phenone | 160 | 104 | 60 | 79.8 | 6.7 | | 80.0 | 6.7 | | C ₂₃ H ₂₃ NO ₂ | <i>N</i> -[Di-(<i>o</i> -methoxyphenyl)methylene]-phenethylamine | 2580 | 3.94 | |
| L-Tyrosine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxy-benzo-phenone | 220 | 245 | 70 | 79.2 | 6.1 | 4.4 | 79.5 | 5.9 | 4.5 | C ₂₁ H ₁₉ NO ₂ | <i>N</i> -[α -(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-benzylidene]- <i>p</i> -hydroxyphenethylamine | 2600 | 3.99 | |
| 2,2'-Dihydroxybenzo-phenone | 220 | 260 | 67 | 75.29 | 5.82 | 4.23 | 75.7 | 5.7 | 4.2 | C ₂₁ H ₁₉ NO ₂ | <i>N</i> -[Di-(<i>o</i> -hydroxyphenyl)-methylene]- <i>p</i> -hydroxyphenethylamine | 2600 | 3.75 | |
| L-Histidine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2,2'-Dihydroxybenzo-phenone | 230 | 187 | 50 | 72.1 | 5.6 | 10.4 | 70.3 | 5.3 | 13.6 | C ₁₈ H ₁₇ N ₃ O ₂ | <i>N</i> -[Di-(<i>o</i> -hydroxyphenyl)-methylene]histamine | 2600 | 4.44 | |
| DL-Tryptophan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxy-aceto-phenone | 215 | 117 | 80 | 77.52 | 6.72 | | 77.69 | 6.47 | | C ₁₈ H ₁₈ NO ₂ | <i>N</i> -[1-(<i>o</i> -hydroxyphenyl)-ethylidene]tryptamine | 2750 | 4.46 | |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxy-n-butyro-phenone | 235 | 120 | 75 | 77.8 | 7.3 | | 78.4 | 7.18 | | C ₂₀ H ₂₂ NO ₂ | <i>N</i> -[1-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-butylidene]tryptamine | 2800 | 4.27 | |
| 2,2'-Dihydroxybenzo-phenone | 195 | 187 | 78 | 77.83 | 5.9 | 7.6 | 77.6 | 5.6 | 7.9 | C ₂₃ H ₂₀ N ₂ O ₂ | <i>N</i> -[Di-(<i>o</i> -hydroxyphenyl)-methylene]tryptamine | 2800 | 3.18 | |
| DL-Methionine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2,2'-Dihydroxybenzo-phenone | 200 | 160 | 65 | 67.38 | 6.02 | | 67.77 | 6.3 | | C ₁₇ H ₁₉ NO ₂ S | <i>N</i> -[<i>o</i> -Hydroxy- α -(<i>o</i> -hydroxyphenyl)benzylidene]-3-methylthiopropylamine | 2580 | 3.91 | |
| L-Lysine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxy-aceto-phenone | 180 | 115 | 60 | 74.5 | 8.0 | | 74.6 | 7.7 | | C ₂₁ H ₂₆ N ₂ O ₂ | <i>NN'</i> -Bis-[1-(<i>o</i> -hydroxyphenyl)ethylidene]-pentane-1,5-diamine | 3900 | 3.73 | |
| L-Leucine | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxy-aceto-phenone | 210 | 111 | 75 | 76.0 | 9.3 | | 76.1 | 9.3 | | C ₁₃ H ₁₉ NO | <i>N</i> -[1-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-ethylidene]isopentylamine | — | — | |

* The same compounds were prepared directly from the amine corresponding to the amino-acid and the ketone.

TABLE 2
Oxazolidines formed by decarboxylation of α -amino- β -hydroxy-acids in the presence of aromatic ketones

| Ketone | Amino-acid | Yield (%) | M. p. of product | Found (%) | | | | Formula | Oxazolidine |
|--|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----|------|-----|--|---|
| | | | | C | H | C | H | | |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxyacetophenone | DL-Serine | 52 | 97° | 67.3 | 7.4 | 67.0 | 7.3 | C ₁₀ H ₁₃ NO ₂ | 2-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-2-methyloxazolidine |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxyacetophenone | DL-Serine | | 165 | 46.7 | 3.8 | 47.0 | 3.9 | C ₁₆ H ₁₆ N ₄ O ₉ | 2-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-2-methyloxazolidine picrate |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxy- <i>p</i> -methoxyacetophenone | DL-Serine | 60 | 178 | 53.1 | 4.2 | 52.8 | 4.0 | C ₂₂ H ₂₀ N ₄ O ₁₀ | 2-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxy- <i>p</i> -methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyloxazolidine picrate |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxyacetophenone | DL- β -Phenylserine | 50 | 115 | 75.6 | 6.8 | 75.3 | 6.7 | C ₁₆ H ₁₇ NO ₂ | 2-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-2-methyl-5-phenyloxazolidine |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxyacetophenone | DL-Threonine | 75 | 103 | 68.4 | 7.9 | 68.4 | 7.8 | C ₁₁ H ₁₅ NO ₂ | 2-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-2,5-dimethyloxazolidine |
| <i>o</i> -Hydroxyacetophenone | DL-Threonine | | 136 | 48.5 | 4.3 | 48.3 | 4.3 | C ₁₇ H ₁₈ N ₄ O ₉ | 2-(<i>o</i> -Hydroxyphenyl)-2,5-dimethyloxazolidine picrate |

TABLE 3
NN'-Diphenylmalonamide ketimines (V)

| R ¹ | R ² | R ³ | M. p. | Yield (%) | Found (%) | | | Formula | Required (%) | | | $\lambda_{\max.}$ (Å) |
|-------------------|---|----------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----|-----|---|--------------|-----|------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | C | H | N | | C | H | N | |
| Pr ⁿ | <i>p</i> -MeO·C ₆ H ₄ | H | 173° | 41 | 72.7 | 6.1 | 9.9 | C ₂₆ H ₂₇ N ₃ O ₃ | 72.7 | 6.3 | 9.8 | |
| Pr ⁿ | <i>o</i> -HO·C ₆ H ₄ | Me | 140 | 60 | 72.8 | 6.4 | — | C ₂₆ H ₂₇ N ₃ O ₃ * | 72.7 | 6.3 | 9.8 | |
| Pr ⁿ | <i>o</i> -HO·C ₆ H ₄ | H | 137 | 67 | 72.1 | 6.3 | 9.9 | C ₂₅ H ₂₅ N ₃ O ₃ * | 72.3 | 6.0 | 10.1 | 2410 |
| Pr ⁿ | <i>o</i> -HO·C ₆ H ₄ | Me | 167 | 65 | 72.4 | 6.4 | 9.4 | C ₂₆ H ₂₇ N ₃ O ₃ | 72.6 | 6.3 | 9.8 | |
| Pr ⁿ | <i>o</i> -HO·C ₆ H ₄ | Et | 140 | 75 | 73.0 | 6.7 | 9.5 | C ₂₇ H ₂₉ N ₃ O ₃ | 73.1 | 6.5 | 9.5 | |
| PhCH ₂ | <i>o</i> -HO·C ₆ H ₄ | H | 150 | 70 | 74.8 | 5.5 | 9.4 | C ₂₉ H ₂₅ N ₃ O ₃ | 75.1 | 5.4 | 9.1 | |
| PhCH ₂ | <i>p</i> -HO·C ₆ H ₄ | H | 157 | 30 | 75.0 | 5.7 | — | C ₂₉ H ₂₅ N ₃ O ₃ | 75.1 | 5.4 | — | 2700, 3240 |
| PhCH ₂ | <i>o</i> -MeO·C ₆ H ₄ | H | 175 | 40 | 75.6 | 5.5 | 8.7 | C ₃₀ H ₂₇ N ₃ O ₃ | 75.4 | 5.7 | 8.8 | 2800, 3220 |
| PhCH ₂ | <i>o</i> -HO·C ₆ H ₄ | Me | 159 | 50 | 75.6 | 5.9 | — | C ₃₀ H ₂₇ N ₃ O ₃ | 75.4 | 5.7 | — | |

* $\nu_{\max.}$ 2950 (OH), 1665 (C=O) (cm.⁻¹).

TABLE 4
Hexahydro-1,3,5-triazines formed from aldimines and phenyl isocyanate

| Aldehyde | Amine | M. p. | Found (%) | | | Required (%) | | | Formula | Triazine | $\lambda_{\max.}$ (Å) | Log ϵ |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------|-----|------|--------------|-----|------|---|--|-----------------------|----------------|
| | | | C | H | N | C | H | N | | | | |
| Salicylaldehyde | Methylamine | 187 | 70.3 | 5.1 | 11.4 | 70.7 | 4.9 | 11.4 | C ₂₉ H ₂₄ N ₄ O ₄ | 1-Methyl-3,5-diphenyl-6-(<i>o</i> -phenylcarbamoyloxy)phenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-dione | | |
| Salicylaldehyde | Ethylamine | 173 | 70.9 | 5.4 | 10.8 | 71.1 | 5.1 | 11.0 | C ₃₀ H ₂₆ N ₄ O ₄ | 1-Ethyl-3,5-diphenyl-6-(<i>o</i> -phenylcarbamoyloxy)phenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-dione | 2350—2500 | 4.53 |
| Salicylaldehyde | <i>n</i> -Propylamine | 175 | 71.3 | 5.5 | 10.8 | 71.6 | 5.4 | 10.8 | C ₃₁ H ₂₈ N ₄ O ₄ | 3,5-Diphenyl-6-(<i>o</i> -phenylcarbamoyloxy)phenyl-1- <i>n</i> -propylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-dione | 2350—2400 | 4.55 |
| Salicylaldehyde | Benzylamine | 211* (decomp.) | | | 9.9 | | | 9.9 | C ₃₅ H ₂₈ N ₄ O ₄ | 1-Benzyl-3,5-diphenyl-6-(<i>o</i> -phenylcarbamoyloxy)phenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-dione | 2360—2370 | 4.53 |
| <i>p</i> -Hydroxybenzaldehyde † | Benzylamine | 143 (decomp.) | 74.3 | 5.3 | | 74.0 | 4.9 | | C ₃₅ H ₂₈ N ₄ O ₄ | 1-Benzyl-3,5-diphenyl-6-(<i>p</i> -phenylcarbamoyloxy)phenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-dione | 2375—2400 | 4.90 |
| <i>p</i> -Methoxybenzaldehyde | Propylamine | 88 | 72.2 | 6.2 | 10.2 | 72.3 | 6.0 | 10.1 | C ₂₅ H ₂₅ N ₃ O ₃ | 6-(<i>p</i> -Methoxyphenyl)-3,5-diphenyl-1-propylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-dione | | |

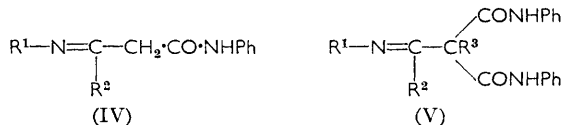
* Crystallised from dimethylformamide. † The intermediate *aldimine* had m. p. 204° (from ethanol) (Found: C, 79.6; H, 6.2%; C₁₄H₁₃NO requires C, 79.6; H, 6.2%).

Moszew and Inasinki⁷ investigated the reaction of anils of acetophenone with isocyanates. By use of vigorous conditions they obtained the monoamides (IV; R¹ = R² = Ph or *p*-MeC₆H₄) and the diamides (V; R¹ = Ph or *p*-MeC₆H₄, R² = Ph or *p*-MeC₆H₄, R³ = H). We have found that Schiff bases prepared

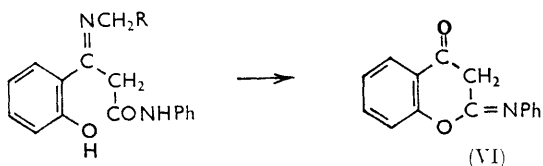
from α -amino-acids or the corresponding amines and *o*- and *p*-hydroxy- and -methoxy-substituted aryl alkyl ketones react exothermically with phenyl isocyanate at room temperature to give the NN'-diphenylmalonamide

⁷ J. Moszew and A. Inasinki, *Zestyty nauk., Univ. Jagiel., Ser. Nauk. chem.*, 1962, 7, 121 (*Chem. Abs.*, 1965, 63, 11,290).

derivatives (V; $R^1 = \text{alkyl or } \text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$, $R^2 = o\text{- or } p\text{-HO}\cdot\text{C}_6\text{H}_4 \text{ or } \text{-MeO}\cdot\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$, $R^3 = \text{H or alkyl}$) (Table 4). These substances on hydrolysis gave the original ketones, the corresponding alkylphenylureas and aniline. Under the same conditions the Schiff bases from *m*-hydroxy and -methoxyacetophenone, like those from the unsubstituted acetophenone, reacted only to produce the original ketones and the *NN'*-disubstituted ureas.



The products obtained with the *o*-hydroxy-ketones were unstable to heat. The propiophenone and butyrophenone derivatives decomposed to give diphenylurea and the original ketones. On the other hand, the acetophenone derivatives, when heated at 90–100° cyclised with formation of the *N*-alkyl-*N'*-phenylureas to give 2-phenyliminochroman-4-one (VI) which could be obtained in higher yield directly without isolation of the diamide, possibly by cyclisation of the intermediate monoamide. Hydrogenation of (VI) gave a dihydro-derivative.

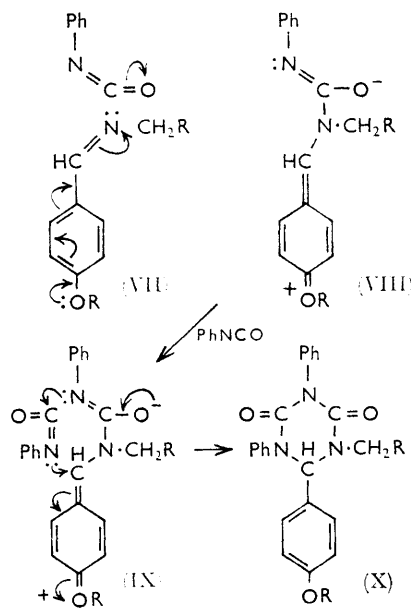


The chromanone (VI) can obviously exist in a *cis*- or a *trans*-form depending on the configuration about the C=N bond. The n.m.r. spectrum indicated that the compound isolated was that with the *trans*-configuration. The protons of the methylene group in the heterocyclic ring showed a difference in chemical shift of 1.03 p.p.m. ($J = \text{ca. } 2 \text{ c./sec.}$). This large difference is explicable in terms of a marked deshielding of that proton which lies nearer to the plane of the =NPh group than the other and hence is more under the influence of the aromatic ring current. These considerations require the =NPh group to be *trans* with respect to the oxygen of the heterocyclic ring.

s-Triazines are formed⁸ when phenyl isocyanate is heated under pressure with aldimines such as *N*-benzylidene-ethylamine. Because of practical difficulties and poor yield this method of preparing triazines has been little used. In contrast, the reaction between *p*-methoxybenzylidene alkylamines with phenyl isocyanate takes place exothermically at room temperature to give the corresponding triazines, *e.g.*, (X; R = alkyl or Ph). Under the same conditions analogous Schiff bases derived from *m*-hydroxy-, *m*-methoxy-, and *o*-, *p*-, and *m*-nitrobenzaldehydes did not react. The mechanism [(VII) \rightarrow (X); R = alkyl or Ph] is proposed. The charges in intermediate (VIII) can be neutralised either internally

to give a (strained) four-membered ring or externally by addition of another isocyanate molecule to give (X), by the mechanism indicated (IX).

These triazines showed a broad band in the region 2350–2500 Å in their u.v. spectra. Hydrolysis of (X; R = alkyl or Ph) gave *p*-methoxybenzaldehyde, aniline, and the corresponding amine.



The reaction of Schiff bases derived from salicylaldehyde with phenyl isocyanate (three molecules in this case) again took place readily to give the corresponding *s*-triazines with a phenylcarbamoyloxy-substituent. In these compounds hydrolysis of the triazine ring did not take place so readily, but the carbamoyloxy-group could be cleaved to give the corresponding *o*-hydroxyphenyl-*s*-triazine.

EXPERIMENTAL

Preparation of Schiff bases.—(a) *By decarboxylation of amino-acids.* The amino-acid (10 mmoles) was mixed with the ketone (20 mmoles) and heated under a stream of nitrogen at the minimum temperature required for decarboxylation. The course of the reaction was followed by passing the gas stream through a solution of calcium hydroxide, and the resulting material was taken up in ethanol. The bases obtained crystalline are described in Table 1.

(b) *By condensation of the amine with the ketone.*—The amine (10 mmoles) was mixed with the ketone (20 mmoles) in dry toluene and the mixture was refluxed under a water separator till the reaction was complete. In some cases a catalytic amount of the amine hydrochloride was added to promote the reaction. After removal of the toluene the product was distilled or recrystallised from ethanol.

Copper Complexes of Schiff Bases.—The Schiff base (10 mmoles) in ethanol (60 ml.) was added to an aqueous ethanolic solution (50 ml.) of copper acetate (5 mmoles) and sodium acetate (10 mmoles). The dark coloured precipitate was filtered off, washed with alcohol and ether, and

⁸ N. A. Lange, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1926, **48**, 2440.

recrystallised from dimethylformamide-ethanol. *Bis*-{[N-1-(*o*-hydroxyphenyl)ethylidene]benzylaminato}copper had m. p. 210° (decomp.) (Found: C, 70.1; H, 5.5; Cu, 12.3. C₃₀H₂₈CuN₂O₂ requires C, 70.4; H, 5.5; Cu, 12.4%), λ_{\max} . 2680 Å (log ϵ 4.36). *Bis*-[N-[α -(*o*-hydroxy-*p*-methoxy)benzylidene]benzylaminato]copper had m. p. 190° (decomp.) (Found: C, 72.1; H, 5.5; Cu, 9.1. C₄₂H₃₆CuN₂O₄ requires C, 72.5; H, 5.2; Cu, 9.1%), λ_{\max} . 2920—2960 Å (log ϵ 4.48).

Bis-[N-[di-(*o*-hydroxyphenyl)methylene]benzylaminato]copper had m. p. 170° (decomp.) (Found: Cu, 9.8. C₄₀H₃₂CuN₂O₄ requires Cu, 9.5%), λ_{\max} . 2708 Å (log ϵ 3.93).

Hydrogenation of Schiff Bases.—The Schiff base (5 mmoles) was dissolved in glacial acetic acid (25 ml.) and shaken with platinum oxide (0.1 g.) under hydrogen at atmospheric pressure. When hydrogenation was complete (3 hr.), the filtered solution was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was crystallised from ethanol-ether. N-[1-(*o*-Hydroxyphenyl)ethyl]benzylamine acetate had m. p. 125° (Found: C, 70.8; H, 7.3. C₁₇H₂₁NO₃ requires C, 71.1; H, 7.3%). In the case of the derivative from *o*-hydroxyacetophenone and tryptamine, the hydrogenated product was benzoylated to give N-benzoyl-N-[1-(*o*-hydroxyphenyl)ethyl]tryptamine, m. p. 180° (Found: C, 78.4; H, 6.2. C₂₅H₂₄N₂O₂ requires C, 78.2; H, 6.3%).

Preparation of Oxazolidines from Schiff Bases.—The α -amino- β -hydroxy-acids (10 mmoles) were mixed with the ketone and heated under nitrogen to the minimum temperature required for decarboxylation (ca. 200°). The dark coloured residue was taken up in ethanol and the filtered solution was decolourised with charcoal, concentrated and cooled. The product (Table 2) if crystalline was recrystallised from ethanol. In some cases the oxazolidine was isolated as the picrate, which was recrystallised from ethanol.

Hydrolysis of Oxazolidines.—Hydrolysis was effected by boiling with concentrated hydrochloric acid under reflux; the solution was extracted with benzene to remove the ketone, and the hydroxy-amine hydrochloride was isolated after evaporation of the aqueous layer.

Preparation of Thiazolidines from Cysteine.—Cysteine (20 mmoles) was decarboxylated by heating with acetophenone (40 mmoles) under nitrogen for 18 hr. The product was taken up in toluene and the solution was filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The oily residue dissolved in cold ether was treated with a cold ethereal solution of hydrogen chloride to give 2-methyl-2-phenylthiazolidine hydrochloride (25%), m. p. 182° (from ethanol) (Found: C, 55.6; H, 6.6. C₁₀H₁₃NS.HCl requires C, 55.7; H, 6.5%). By the same procedure *o*-methoxyacetophenone and cysteine gave 2-(*o*-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylthiazolidine hydrochloride, m. p. 175° (from ethanol-ether) (Found: C, 53.6; H, 6.5; N, 5.7. C₁₁H₁₅NOS.HCl requires C, 53.8; H, 6.5; N, 5.7%), λ_{\max} . 2740 Å (log ϵ 3.52).

NN'-Bis-[α -(2,4-dihydroxyphenyl)benzylidene]-2,2'-dithiodi(ethylamine).—When 2,4-dihydroxybenzophenone was used with cysteine in the above reaction, the only product isolated was the *di*-Schiff base corresponding to cysteine, m. p. 242° (decomp.) (Found: C, 65.9; H, 5.5. C₃₀H₂₈N₂O₄S₂ requires C, 66.2; H, 5.2%).

Preparation of the NN'-Diphenylmalonamide Derivatives.—The Schiff bases produced from the ketones and amines (or the corresponding amino-acids) (10 mmoles) were mixed with phenyl isocyanate (20 mmoles) at room temperature. When the exothermic reaction had subsided the mixture

was heated on a steam-bath for a few min., and the product was crystallised from ethanol (Table 3).

Hydrolysis of the NN'-Diphenylmalonamide Derivatives.—These ketimines were hydrolysed by heating on a steam-bath with concentrated hydrochloric acid for 3 hr. The solution was diluted with water and extracted with ether; the extracts were evaporated to give the original ketone, identified as its 2,4-dinitrophenyl hydrazone, and the corresponding alkylphenylurea. Aniline hydrochloride was identified in the aqueous layer.

Preparation of 2-Phenyliminochroman-4-one.—The Schiff base from *o*-hydroxyacetophenone and the amine (10 mmoles) was mixed with phenyl isocyanate (40 mmoles) and heated on a steam-bath for 3 hr. The product gave 2-phenyliminochroman-4-one (80%), m. p. 163° (from benzene or ethanol) (Found: C, 75.8; H, 4.8; N, 5.8. C₁₅H₁₁NO₂ requires C, 76.0; H, 4.6; N, 5.9%), λ_{\max} . 2380 Å (log ϵ 4.4), ν_{\max} (KCl) 1720 (C=O) and 1620 (C=N) cm⁻¹, τ 5.17 and 6.18 (both d, $J = 1-2$ c./sec.). The mother-liquor from this material when concentrated deposited the corresponding *N*-alkyl-*N'*-phenylurea. The same substance was also obtained (50%) by heating the diamides (above) obtained from *o*-hydroxyacetophenone on a steam-bath for 2 hr. The substance was very readily hydrolysed by dilute aqueous acid or alkali to the original hydroxyacetophenone, aniline, and carbon dioxide. When hydrogenated in the presence of platinum oxide, hydrogen (1 mol.) was taken up to give 2-phenyliminochroman-4-one, m. p. 135° (from ethanol) (Found: C, 72.2; H, 6.2; N, 4.9. C₁₅H₁₃NO₂.C₂H₅OH requires C, 71.6; H, 6.7; N, 4.9%), λ_{\max} . 2670 and 2740 Å, ν_{\max} (KCl) 1720 (C=O), 3420 (NH), and 1350 (C-N) cm⁻¹. The hydrogenated product gave a *dinitrophenylhydrazone*, m. p. 200° (from ethanol) (Found: C, 59.8; H, 4.1. C₂₁H₁₇N₅O₅ requires C, 60.1; H, 4.1%).

Preparation of Hexahydro-1,3,5-triazines.—The aldehyde (20 mmoles) was refluxed with an excess of the amine in ethanol for 1 hr. The product left after removal of the ethanol and the excess of amine was mixed at room temperature with phenyl isocyanate (40 mmoles). When the exothermic reaction had subsided, the mixture was heated on a water-bath for 1 hr. and crystallised from ethanol. Yields were >85%. The results are shown in Table 4.

Hydrolysis of Carbamoyloxy-groups.—The triazine (4.0 mmole) was vigorously stirred with 5*N*-hydrochloric acid (30 ml.) for 30 min. at 70—75° and the solid product was filtered off, washed, and recrystallised from ethanol.

1-Benzyl-6-(*o*-hydroxyphenyl)-3,5-diphenylhexahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-dione had m. p. 195° (Found: C, 74.9; H, 5.1; N, 9.1. C₂₈H₂₃N₃O₃ requires C, 74.8; H, 5.1; N, 9.4%), λ_{\max} . 2370—2390 Å (log ϵ 4.4). 1-Benzyl-6-(*p*-hydroxyphenyl)-3,5-diphenylhexahydrotriazine-2,4-dione had m. p. 168° (Found: C, 74.5; H, 5.1; N, 9.8. C₂₈H₂₃N₃O₃ requires C, 74.8; H, 5.1; N, 9.4%), λ_{\max} . 2400 Å (log ϵ 4.8).

Hydrolysis of Hexahydrotriazines.—The material was heated under reflux with concentrated hydrochloric acid for 2 hr. and the original aldehyde was identified in the steam distillate of the hydrolysate as its 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone. Aniline and the original amine were identified as hydrochlorides after evaporation of the hydrolysate to dryness and fractional crystallisation from acetone-water.

We thank Dr. L. Philips of Imperial College for the n.m.r. measurements and interpretation of the spectra.