## Homo- $S'_{H}$ Reactions on Allylmethyl Iodide leading to Substituted Cyclopropanes

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Our recent observations that  $I[CH_2]_3I^{1a}$  and  $CH_2I_2$ -olefin<sup>1b</sup> produce the cyclopropane ring system when treated with peroxides prompted us, in our search for new types of free-radical reactions, to attempt to incorporate closure of a  $\gamma$ -iodopropyl

radical to a cyclopropane into a sequence of freeradical processes. Consequently, we have performed experiments designed to determine whether such a step can occur, sequentially or concertedly, along with radical addition to a double bond. We

TABLE. Peroxide-induced reaction of RI with CH2: CH·CH2·CH2Ia

| RI                                   |     | % Yield <sup>b</sup> of ⊳-CH <sub>2</sub> R |             |           |       |
|--------------------------------------|-----|---|-------------|-----------|-------|
|                                      |     | $(PhCO_2)_2$ c°                             |             | (t-BuO)2c |       |
|                                      |     | 79°   | 114°        | 134°`     | 168°  |
| MeCH <sub>2</sub> I <sup>d</sup>     |     | <b>3</b> 8                                  | 35          | 38        | 34    |
| $CH_2: CH \cdot CH_2 \cdot CH_2 Id.$ | • • | 1.3   | $2 \cdot 6$ | 1         | 2     |
| Me <sub>2</sub> CHId                 |     | 47  | 39          |           |       |
| ICH₂·CO₂H₫                           |     | 53  | 73          | < 0.5     | < 0.5 |
|                                      |     | < 0.1                                       | < 0.1       | < 1       | < 1   |
| $CH_2:CH\cdot CH_2I$                 |     | < 0.1                                       | < 0.1       | < 0.1     | < 0.5 |

report some reactions which may be visualized as being of the homo- $S'_{\mathbf{H}}$  type,

$$X + \sum C = C - C - C - X \longrightarrow X - C \longrightarrow X + X$$

We have found that reaction of an organic iodide and  $CH_2: CH[CH_2]_2I^{\dagger}$  with benzoyl or di-t-butyl peroxide results in the formation of a side-chain substituted methyl-cyclopropane:

$$\mathbf{RI} + \mathbf{CH}_2 = \mathbf{CH}[\mathbf{CH}_2]_2 \mathbf{I} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{peroxide}} \mathbf{CH}_2 \mathbf{R}$$

Results are summarized in the Table.

Possible alternatives to the equation (1) are, e.g. reaction of the cyclopropylmethyl radical with  $R\cdot$  or, where applicable, with the enol of RI followed by elimination of I, or with dehydroiodinated RI followed by hydrogen abstraction. We feel these are unlikely in view of our results with Me<sub>3</sub>CI and CH<sub>2</sub>:CH·CH<sub>2</sub>I (Table), the results cited in footnote (d) of the Table, the fact that only the first possibility is applicable to all of the reactions, and the known chemistry of the cyclopropylmethyl-allylmethyl radical system.<sup>2</sup> We prefer to think in terms of the homo- $S'_{\rm H}$  model when designing future experiments.

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<sup>†</sup> Prepared by reaction of  $CH_2: CH[CH_2]_2Br$  with NaI in acetone; this material is unusually light-sensitive for a primary iodide. Its n.m.r. spectrum (CCl<sub>4</sub>) consists of the usual  $CH_2=CH$ — absorption between  $\tau$  3·8 and 5·2 (3·0 H) and multiplets at about  $\tau$  6·9 (2·0 H) and 7·4 (2·0 H). (Found: C, 26·6; H, 4·0; I, 69·6; Calc. for C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>7</sub>I: C, 26·4; H, 4·0; I, 69·7.)

 <sup>(</sup>a) L. Kaplan, J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1967, 89, 1753; (b) L. Kaplan, ibid., p. 4566.
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