Alkylamido-carbonyl Complexes of Manganese(I)

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In contrast to primary aromatic amines, $ArNH_2$, which are known to react with $Mn(CO)_8Br$ to yield products of the type, $Mn(CO)_3(NH_2\cdot Ar)_2Br$,^{1,2} primary aliphatic amines have been found to react according to the following equation:

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathrm{Mn(CO)_5Br} + \ 3\mathrm{RNH_2} \rightarrow \mathrm{Mn(CO)_5(NH \cdot R)(NH_2 \cdot R)} \\ + \ \mathrm{RNH_3^+Br^-} \end{array}$

¹ W. Hieber and W. Schropp, Jr., Z. Naturforsch., 1959, 14b, 460.

² R. J. Angelici and F. Basolo, J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1962, 84, 2495.

No carbon monoxide is evolved in the reaction, and the infrared spectrum shows no evidence for the formation of formamides or 1,3-dialkylureas.

In a typical preparation methylamine is bubbled into a pentane solution of Mn(CO)₅Br. The CH₃NH₃+Br⁻ is immediately filtered off and the pentane solution evaporated to dryness leaving a pale yellow solid. After washing with small amounts of pentane, and drying, the product analyzes for Mn(CO)₅(NHCH₃)(NH₂CH₃). Its infrared spectrum in pentane shows three sharp C-O stretching absorptions at 2077 (w), 1986 (vs), and 1939 cm.⁻¹ (s) but no strong absorptions in the 1500—1750 cm.⁻¹ region where an Mn(C=O)-NH-Me carbonyl group might be expected to absorb. This suggests that all seven groups are directly bonded to the metal. The proton n.m.r. spectrum of Mn(CO)₅(NH·Me) (NH₂·Me) in deuterochloroform exhibits four different kinds of hydrogens whose chemical shifts are given in p.p.m. downfield with respect to tetramethylsilane: NH of MeNH at 5.78 (broad), NH₂ of MeNH₂ at 3.11 (broad), CH₃ of MeNH at 2.92 (doublet), and CH₃ of MeNH₂ at 2.50 (triplet). The sharpness and position of the CH₃ resonances indicate that the compound is diamagnetic.

The spectral data suggest that the manganese is seven-co-ordinated in these compounds, and its formal electronic configuration must therefore exceed the next inert-gas configuration by two electrons. The scarcity of seven-co-ordinated metal carbonyl complexes whose E.A.N. exceeds that of the next inert gas makes these compounds of particular interest. A clarification of the structural problem awaits an X-ray-crystallographic investigation.

All primary amines, including n- and t-butylamine, ethylenediamine, isopropylamine, and cyclohexylamine, give analogous products, but secondary and tertiary amines do not.

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