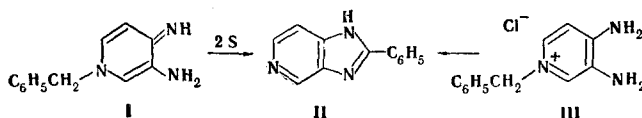


## UNUSUAL FORMATION OF AN IMIDAZO[4,5-c]PYRIDINE DERIVATIVE

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We have found that 2-phenylimidazo[4,5-c]pyridine (II) is formed in 35% yield (mp 223-224°C, from aqueous alcohol) when 1-benzyl-3-amino-1,4-dihydro-4-pyridoneimine (I) is heated with elementary sulfur (in a molar ratio of 1:2) at 150-160°C for 12 h. A higher yield (56%) of imidazopyridine II is obtained with the hydrochloride (III) of I; however, the reaction takes place at 250-260°C in 6 h.



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