EXAMPLE OF "DOUBLE"

ELIMINATION IN OXIDATION

OF A CYCLIC TELLURIDE

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The reaction of elimination of organyltellurenic acids, RTeOH, from organic telluroxides with formation of olefins is well known [1-3]. On heating, cyclic tellurides undergo extrusion of the tellurium atom with formation of a new carbon–carbon bond [4, 5].

We synthesized a series of cyclic tellurides earlier in [6-9]. While studying their chemical properties, we observed a reaction of "double" elimination upon oxidation of 1-thia-4-telluracyclohexane-1,1-dioxide (1) [9]. Heating telluride 1 (145°C, 25 h) in the presence of air leads to divinyl sulfone in quantitative yield. When heated under similar conditions under an argon atmosphere, telluride 1 is recovered unreacted. The reaction probably occurs through oxidation of telluride 1 by the oxygen of air with formation of the intermediate telluroxide 2 and subsequent elimination of tellurenic acid HTeOH.

Divinyl sulfone was identified with the help of ¹H NMR and ¹³C using an authentic sample [10].

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