

## Catalyst for Quadricyclene Isomerization

When informed by Drs. Chen and Feder that  $\text{Co}^{\text{III}}\text{TPP}$  prepared in their laboratories was roughly several orders-of-magnitude less active in catalyzing the isomerization of quadricyclene to norbornadiene than we had reported (1), we sent them a sample of our original catalyst. They were able then to reproduce our results within the expected experimental error bounds.

With the experience of Drs. Chen and Feder known to us, we reexamined our catalyst synthesis procedure, including a purification step with  $\text{CCl}_4$ , and concluded that our active catalyst may possibly be  $\text{Co}^{\text{III}}(\text{TPP})\text{Cl}$ . Their careful laboratory analysis (2) simultaneously corroborated our conclusion.

We are grateful to Drs. Chen and Feder for correcting our error. Their analysis actually improves the value of our reported

work because the treatment with  $\text{CCl}_4$  had unexpectedly produced a catalyst which is far more active than  $\text{CoTPP}$ . The corrected identification presents some interesting possibilities in homogeneous catalysis.

### REFERENCES

1. Wilson, H. D., and Rinker, R. G., *J. Catal.* **42**, 268 (1976).
2. Chen, M. J., and Feder, H. M., *J. Catal.* **55**, 4267 (1978).

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