Anal. Caled for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>ClO<sub>4</sub>: C, 50.37; H, 3.29; Cl, 16.52; OCH<sub>3</sub>, 16.02. Found: C, 50.32; H, 3.36; Cl, 16.30; OCH<sub>4</sub>, 15.92

3-Chloro-2-hydroxy-4,6-dimethoxybenzoic Acid (XIV),---To a solution of 2 g (8.75 mmoles) of 7-chloro-4,6-dimethoxycommaran-3-one (IX) in 700 ml of anhydrons acetone, 8 g of powdered KMnO<sub>4</sub> was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hr, and the resulting brown solid obtained by filtration was washed with acetone, dried at 120° for 15 min, and ground with 40 nd of  $10^{\circ}_{\circ}$  NH<sub>4</sub>OH solution. The filtrate and washing were combined and added to 100 g of crushed ice, and this mixture was carefully acidified with concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The gelatinoustype precipitate was filtered off, dried, and recrystallized from ethyl acetate. The resulting tan needles (0.51 g) melted at 222.0-223.0° dec in accordance with the literature.9

7-Chloro-4-ethoxy-6-methoxycoumaran-3-one (XV),--To a mixture of 30 g of anhydrons  $K_2CO_4$  and 4.29 g (0.020 mole) of 7-chloro-4-hydroxy-6-methoxycoumaran-3-one (X) in 120 ml of dimethylformamide, a solution of ethyl bromide (3.27 g, 0.030 mole) in 40 ml of dimethylformamide was added. The reaction mixture was slowly heated to 65° and maintained at this temperature for 5 hr. It was then added to 800 ml of ice water, and the resulting red precipitate was washed with water. Recrystallization from aqueons ethanol gave orange-red needles (3.1 g, 

Anal. Caled for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClO<sub>4</sub>; C, 54.45; H, 4.57; Cl, 14.61. Found: C, 54.58; H, 4.58; Cl, 14.70.

7-Chloro-4-ethoxy-6,2'-dimethoxy-6'-methylgris-2'-ene-3,4'dione (XVI) was prepared from 10.16 g (0.030 mole) of 7-chloro-4-hydroxy.6,2'-dimethoxy-6'-methylgris-2'-ene-3,4'-dione (V) according to the procedure used in the synthesis of XV. The white solid product (10.1 g,  $\mathfrak{U}1.\mathbb{C}_{\ell}^{\sim}$ ) crystallized from benzene-ether in white needles: nip 213.0-213.5°;  $[\alpha]^{25}D + 322.26^{\circ}$  (c 1.523, In white needles: htp 213.0–213.5<sup>+</sup>;  $\{\alpha\}^{*0}$  + 522.20<sup>+</sup> (c 1.323, acetone);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{EoH}}$  218 m $\mu$  ( $\epsilon$  23,109), 235 (22,025), 291 (23,659), 328 (5085);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  5.85 (C=O), 6.02  $\mu$  (COC=C): bt.<sup>+</sup> mp 211–213°,  $\{\alpha\}$ 0 + 324°.

3-Chloro-6-ethoxy-2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzoic Acid (XVII). A. From the Oxidation of 7-Chloro-4-ethoxy-6-methoxycoumaran-3-one (XV).—Compound XV (2.0 g, 8.24 mmoles) was oxidized by the procedure described for oxidation of IX. The product (0.47 g), recrystallized from ethyl acetate, melted at 210.0–211.7° dec:  $\lambda_{max}^{RBt}$  3.15 (OH), 3.77 (bonded OH), 5.92  $\mu$ (('==t)),

Anal. Caled for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClO<sub>5</sub>: C, 48.70; H, 4.50; Cl, 14.38. Found: C, 48.62; H, 4.55; Cl, 14.29.

B. From the Oxidation of 7-Chloro-4-ethoxy-6,2'-dimethoxy-6'-methylgris-2'-ene-3,4'-dione (XVI),---A solution of 8.0 g (0.022 mole) of XVI in 1.81, of anhydrons acetone was treated with 32 g of powdered KMnO<sub>4</sub> by the procedure described for the oxidation of XV. The acid obtained from this reaction melted at 204.7-206.7° dec after recrystallization from ethyl acetate; mixture melting point with the acid obtained in part A above was 207.7-209.0° dec. The infrared spectrum (in KBr) was superimposable on that of the acid obtained in part A.

3-Chloro-6-ethoxy-2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzanilide (XVIII) was prepared in the customary manner from 0.40 g of 3-chloro-6ethoxy-2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzoic acid (XVII) and 1 ml of aniline. Recrystallization from benzene yielded 0.092 g of silky white needles, mp 210.0–210.5°,  $\lambda_{\text{hors}}^{\text{NOI}}$  3.03 (NH, OH) and 6.08  $\mu$ (NC==0).

Anal. Caled for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>CINO<sub>4</sub>: C, 59.73; H, 5.01; Cl, 11.02; N, 4.35. Found: C, 59.68; H, 5.30; Cl, 11.08; N, 4.53.

7-Chloro-6,2'-dimethoxy-4-(p-methoxybenzyloxy)-6'-methylgris-2'-ene-3,4'-dione (I),--A benzene solution of freshly prepared and vacuum dried (at  $25^{\circ}$ ) crude *p*-methoxybenzyl bromide (XI, prepared from 3.45 g (0.025 mole) of anisyl alcohol) was added slowly to a stirred mixture of 6.77 g (0.020 mole) of and ydrons = 7-chloro-4-hydroxy-6, 2'-dimethoxy-6'-methylgris-2'-methylgris-2'-methylgene-3,4'-dione (V), 25 g of anhydrous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, and 200 ml of anhydrons acetone. After the reaction mixture was refluxed for 16 hr, the solid separated by filtration was washed with two 40ml portions of boiling acetone and the filtrate and washings were combined and concentrated to dryness. The resulting solid product (8.5 g, 92.5%) was recrystallized from dioxane-absolute ethanol; it melted at 201.6-202.2° dec;  $[\alpha]^{26}$ D +246.32° (c 1.224, dioxane);  $\lambda_{\mu_{000}}^{E,00H}$  231 mµ ( $\epsilon$  36,712), 292 (22,027), 335 (6425);  $\lambda_{\mu_{000}}^{E,0CH}$  5.82 (C=O), 6.0 µ (COC=-C).

Anal. Caled for C24H23ClO;: C, 62.82; 11, 5.05; Cl, 7.73. Found: C, 62.69; H, 4.83; Cl, 8.02.

7-Chloro-4-[3-(N,N-diethylcarbamoyl)benzyloxy]-6,2'-dimethoxy-6'-methylgris-2'-ene-3,4'-dione (II) was prepared from V (3.39 g, 0.010 mole) and XII (3.0 g, 0.011 mole) by the procedure described for the synthesis of 1. The crude product (4.7 g, 89.0%), recrystallized from benzene, gave white crystalhise plates: mp 191.0–192.0°:  $[\alpha]^{26}0 \rightarrow 215.41^{\circ}$  (c 1.012, acctonc);  $\lambda_{\rm nex}^{\rm E0H}$  214 m $\mu$  ( $\epsilon$  35,641), 235 (29,569), 292 (21,912), 330 (5808);  $\lambda_{\rm nex}^{\rm e0Ce}$  5.85 (C==0), 6.02  $\mu$  (COC==C).

. Iual. Calcd for  $C_{28}H_{26}CINO_{4}$ : C. 63.69; H. 5.73; Cl. 6.72; N, 2.65. Found: C. 63.61; H. 5.81; Cl. 6.61; N, 2.51.

7-Chloro-6,2'-dimethoxy-4-(3,7-dimethyl-6-octenyl-1-oxy)-6'methylgris-2'-ene-3,4'-dione (III) was prepared from (6.8 g, 0.020 mole) and XIII (4.6 g, 0.021 mole) by the procedure described for the synthesis of I except that dimethylformamide was employed as the solvent and the reaction temperature was held at  $25^{\circ}$  for 1 hr and  $70^{\circ}$  for 4 hr. The crude product (7.8 g, \$0.0%) crystallized from \$0% methanol in the form of white crystalline plates: np 136.5–137.5°;  $[\alpha]^{56}p + 252.33°$  (c 0.988, acetone);  $\lambda_{max}^{6009} = 218 - \text{m}\mu \ (\epsilon \ 24.327), \ 235 \ (23,135), \ 201 \ (22.658), \ 327 \ (5963); \ \lambda_{max}^{CDC6} = 5.82 \ (C=C), \ 6.02 \ \mu \ (COC=C).$ 

Anal. Caled for C25H33ClO5: C, 65.47; H, 6.97; C3, 7.43. Found: C, 65.42; H, 6.91; Cl, 7.60.

7-Chloro-6-methoxy-4-(p-methoxybenzyloxy)coumaran-3-one (VI) was prepared from X (2.15 g, 0.010 mole) and XI (2.61 g. 0.013 mole) by the procedure described for the synthesis of III. The solid product (3.1 g, 92.6%) was recrystallized from dioxane giving the analytical sample: mp 182.6-183.2° dec:  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{Foll}}$  232 m $\mu$  ( $\epsilon$  26,446), 285 (17,408), 322 (5021);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{Foll}}$  236 m $\mu$  ( $\epsilon$  26,446), 285 (17,408), 322 (5021);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{Foll}}$  236 m $\mu$  ( $\epsilon$  23,768), 283 (18,914), 317 (5858);  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{Foll}}$  5.87  $\mu$  (Cmat). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>G</sub>H<sub>15</sub>Clo<sub>5</sub>; C, 60.99; H, 4.52; Cl. 10,59. Keanaly, C. 60.01, 11, 157, 277, 277, 277

Found: C, 60.94; H, 4.76; Cl, 10.55.

7-Chloro-4-[3-(N,N-diethylcarbamoyl)benzyloxy]-6-methoxycoumaran-3-one (VII) was prepared from X (2.15 g, 0.010 mole) and XII (2.97 g, 0.011 mole) by the procedure described for the synthesis of H1. The product (2.9 g, 71.8%) was recrystallized from etbyl arcta*e* giving crean-colored microcrystalline needles: mp=141.0-143.0<sup>\*</sup> dec:  $\lambda_{\rm max}^{\rm EOH}$  208 m $\mu$  ( $\epsilon$  37,157), 235 (26,252), 286 (19,790), 320 (6866);  $\lambda_{\rm Gas}^{\rm ECh}$  5.87 (C==O), 6.18  $\mu$  (NC==t)).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}CINO_{51}$  C, 62,45; H, 5.49; Cl. 8.78; ,3.47. Found: C, 62,69; H, 5.46; Cl, 9.00; N, 3.50. N, 3.47.

7-Chloro-6-methoxy-4-(3,7-dimethyl-6-octenyl-1-oxy)coumaran-3-one (VIII) was prepared from X (2.15 g, 0.010 mole) and XIII (2.6) g, 0.012 mole) by the procedure described for the synthesis of III. The product (2.1 g, 59.5%) was recrystallized from methanol, yielding the analytical sample: mp  $75.2-76.0^{\circ}$  $^{29}(209)$  m $\mu$  ( $\epsilon$  20.643), 235 (18.349), 285 (18.173), 320 (4940);  $\sum_{max}^{max} 5.85 \mu \in C = 0$ 

Annk Caled for  $C_{19}H_{25}ClO_4$ ;  $C_{1}(64.67)$ ;  $H_{1}(7.14)$ ; Ch(10.05). Found: C. 64.67; H. 7.05; Cl. 10.05,

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### The Synthesis of *p*-Guanidinobenzamidines

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Phenethylbiguanide hydrochloride (1) is a clinically effective drug for the control of selected cases of diabetes.<sup>1</sup> We have sought to develop for hypoglycemic

(1) J. Pomeranze, H. Fuiji, and G. T. Muratoff, Proc. Soc. Expl. Biol. Med., 95, 193 (1957).

NH NH C6H5(CH2)2NHCNHCNH2·HCl



testing novel chemical systems which incorporate features of the biguanide skeleton and have already reported the syntheses of phenethylmalonamidine dihydrochloride (2)<sup>2</sup> and 3,5-diamino-1-phenethylpyrazole hydrochloride (3).<sup>3</sup> In this communication we describe the synthesis of some salts of *p*-guanidinobenzamidines, a system which can be construed as a biguanide in which a *p*-phenylene group has been inserted between the guanyl and guanidino moieties. The specific examples synthesized are the parent compound 7 and the *p*-guanidinobenzamidines, 9 and 15, isomeric with phenethylbiguanide.

The parent *p*-guanidinobenzamidine dihydrochloride was synthesized by two routes starting from either *p*-aminobenzonitrile or *p*-aminobenzamidine hydrochloride. Thus, *p*-aminobenzonitrile (4) was allowed to react with cyanamide in acidic medium to provide *p*-guanidinobenzonitrile nitrate (5). After liberation from the salt, the free base was converted to methyl



p-guanidinobenzimidate dihydrochloride (6) with methanolic hydrogen chloride. The imidate salt 6 formed p-guanidinobenzamidine dihydrochloride (7) when treated with ammonia. In the alternative synthesis, p-aminobenzamidine hydrochloride (8) was converted to 7 with aqueous cyanamide. Reaction of 6 with ethylamine yielded p-N-ethylamidinophenylguanidine, isolated as the diperchlorate 9, one of the isomers of phenethylbiguanide.

(2) W. J. Fanshawe, V. J. Bauer, E. F. Ullman, and S. R. Safir, J. Org. Chem., 29, 308 (1964).

(3) W. J. Fanshawe, V. J. Bauer, and S. R. Safir, ibid., 29, 942 (1964).

The reaction of ethyl cyanamide with 4 and with 8failed. Therefore, a different route for the synthesis of the other isomer, 15, was required. p-Aminobenzonitrile (4) was allowed to react with ethyl isothiocyanate to provide 1-p-cyanophenyl-3-ethyl-2-thiourea (10), which was converted to N-p-cyanophenyl-N'ethylchloroformamidine (11) with thionyl chloride. The reaction of 11 with ammonia provided the pguanidinobenzonitrile salt 12. When the preparation of **11** proved to be capricious, another route was devised. Desulfurization of 10 with mercuric oxide gave N-pcyanophenyl-N'-ethylcarbodiimide (13), which was converted to 12 with ammonia. The transformation of **12** to 1-*p*-amidinophenyl-3-ethylguanidine dinitrate (15) by means of the intermediate imidate salt 14 proceeded smoothly.

4 —



The *p*-guanidinobenzamidine salts 7, 9, and 15 were administered as suspensions in 0.5% sodium carboxymethylcellulose solution orally at 250 mg/kg to normal chicks and intraperitoneally at 200 mg/kg to normal rats. Blood glucose levels, estimated as "reducing sugar" content by the method of Hoffman as modified for the Technicon Auto-Analyzer,<sup>4</sup> were not depressed significantly below controls when determined at 2 hr after dosing for chicks and 3 hr after dosing for rats.

#### Experimental Section<sup>5</sup>

p-Guanidinobenzonitrile Nitrate (5).—A solution of 100 g (0.85 mole) of p-aminobenzonitrile, 425 ml of ethanol, 170 ml of 8 N nitric acid, and 75 ml of 50% aqueous cyanamide (Aero® Cyanamide-50, American Cyanamid Co.) was heated under reflux for 6 hr. Then the solution was treated with 5 g of charcoal,

<sup>(4)</sup> W. S. Hoffman, J. Biol. Chem., **120**, 51 (1937). The animal testing was carried out by Drs. C. Boshart, S. Gordon, and E. Tocus of these laboratories.

<sup>(5)</sup> Melting points were determined in a Hershberg apparatus and are uncorrected. Microanalyses were performed by Mr. L. M. Brancone and staff. The syntheses of  $\mathbf{5}$  and  $\mathbf{6}$  were first developed by Mr. P. T. Mac-Gregor and Dr. M. J. Weiss of these laboratories.

filtered, and stored at  $5^{\circ}$  overnight. The solid which separated was collected and dried at  $120^{\circ}$  in a vacuum oven. The product consisted of 55 g (29%) of colorless prisms, mp 238-240°.

*p*-Guanidinobenzonitrile.—To a boiling solution of 39.1 g (0.18 mole) of **5** in 500 ml of water was added a solution of 7.0 g (0.18 mole) of NaOH in 25 ml of water. Upon cooling, colorless crystals, 18.8 g (65%), mp 200–203°, separated. A sample was recrystallized three times from ethanol, affording colorless prisms, mp 216–217° dec.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_8N_4$ ; C, 59.98; H, 5.03; N, 34.98, Found: C, 60.09; H, 5.18; N, 34.60.

Methyl *p*-Guanidinobenzimidate Dihydrochloride (6).—To 200 ml of cold saturated methanolic HCl in a pressure bottle was added 30 g of *p*-guanidinobenzonitrile. The mixture was shaken at room temperature for 24 hr. The solid was collected, washed with ether, and dried, affording 44 g (88%) of colorless crystals, mp 287–288° dec. The material was used without purification.

*p*-Guanidinobenzamidine Dihydrochloride (7). A.—A solution of 1.0 g (3.8 mmoles) of methyl 6 and 10 ml of cold saturated methanolic NH<sub>3</sub> was allowed to s(and at room temperature for 5 hr. The solvent was removed on a steam bath under a stream of nirrogen leaving a colorless solid residue. Three recrystallizations from water provided 0.31 g (33%) of colorless needles, mp 293° dec.

. *Inol.* Caled for  $C_8H_{Cl}Cl_8N_5$ ; C, 38.41; H, 5.23; Cl, 28.34; N, 28.00, Found; C, 38.20; H, 5.48; Cl, 27.93; N, 27.77.

**B.**—A solution of 13.6 g (0.08 mole) of *p*-aminobenzamidine hydrorhloride,<sup>6</sup> 32.0 ml of 3 N ethanolic HCl, 80 ml of water, and 6.2 ml (0.075 mole) of 50% aqueous cyanamide was heated under reflux for 6 hr. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure on a steam bath, and the oily residue was tritmrated with ethanol. The residnal solid amounted to 9.7 g (52%) of colorless crystals, mp 291–297°. Recrystallization from water gave 3.6 g of product, mp 295–296° dec, undepressed upon admixture with a sample prepared as in method A, above.

*p*-N-Ethylamidinophenylguanidine Diperchlorate (9).—A solution of 100 ml of methanol, 25 ml of ethylamine, and 10.0 g (0.038 mole) of methyl *p*-guanidinobenzimidate dihydrochloride was stored in a pressure bottle at room temperature for 12 hr. The solvent was removed nuder reduced pressure, and the residual oil was treated with 40 ml of 3 N ethanolic IICL. The solid which separated amounted to 8.80 g of colorless crystals, mp 250–260°. This solid was dissolved in 10 ml of water, and 7 ml of 70% HClO<sub>4</sub> was added. The precipitate which formed consisted of 8.80 g (57%) of colorless crystals, mp 211–212°. Three recrystalizations from water provided the analytical sample, mp 213–214°.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{39}H_{15}Cl_2N_5O_8$ ; C, 29.57; H, 4.22; Cl, 17.46; N, 17.24. Found: C, 30.11; H, 4.61; Cl, 17.21; N, 17.50.

1-*p*-Cyanophenyl-3-ethyl-2-thiourea (10).—A solution of 5.90 g (0.05 mole) of *p*-aminobenzonitrile, 4.35 g (0.05 mole) of ethyl isothiocyanate, and 20 ml of dimethyl sulfoxide was heated on a steam bath for 4 hr. The dark solution was poured into 250 ml of water, and the solid, mp 93–105°, which separated was collected. Two crystallizations from benzene gave 6.25 g (61 $C_t$ ) of fine color-less needles, mp 132–133°.

.1nal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{11}N_{1}S$ ; C, 58.53; H, 5.40; N, 20.48; S, 15.59. Found: C, 58.55; H, 5.40; N, 20.35; S, 15.42.

In other runs, a crystalline modification, up 116-117°, was obtained and employed with equal success in subsequent reactions.

**N**-*p*-Cyanophenyl-N'-ethylchloroformamidine (11),--- To a cold solution of 4.90 g (0.024 mole) of 1-*p*-cyanophenyl-3-ethyl-2-thionrea in 50 ml of glyme was added 1.8 ml (2.9 g, 0.024 mole) of thionyl chloride. A solid immediately separated, then became oily, and after stirring for 2 days, solidified to 6.0 g of a pale yellow powder, mp 120-129° dec. A sample was recrystallized from acetonicritle for analysis, affording pale yellow crystals, mp 130-140° dec.

.1nal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{10}ClN_3$ ; C, 57.83; H, 4.85; Cl, 17.08; N, 20.23. Found: C, 58.16; H, 4.81; Cl, 15.95; N, 20.49.

1-*p*-Cyanophenyl-3-ethylcarbodiimide (13).—A suspension of 2.05 g (0.01 mole) of 1-*p*-cyanophenyl-3-ethyl-2-thiourea, 4.32 g (0.02 mole) of mercuric oxide, and 100 ml of ether was shaken for 8 hr. The mixture was filtered, and the solvent was distilled under reduced pressure leaving a colorless oil, which was used without purification. The infrared spectrum exhibits bands at  $4.50 (-C \equiv N)$  and  $4.65 \mu (N = C = N)$ .

(6) F. C. Schaefer and G. A. Peters, J. (Icg. Chem., 26, 412 (1961).

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1-*p*-Cyanophenyl-3-ethylguanidine Hydrochloride (12) A. – To a cold saturated solution of NH<sub>3</sub> in 250 ml of dioxane was added with stirring 25 g (0.12 mole) of crude N-*p*-cyanophenyl-N'-ethylchloroformanidine. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 hr, heated on a steam bath for 1 hr, and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to an oil which was taken up in 30 ml of 3 N ethanolic HCl. The solution was concentrated to an oil, which was triurated with acetonitrile. The solid was collected, washed with acetonitrile and ether, and dried, leaving 8.70 g ( $32^{C}_{i}$ ) of colorless crystals, mp 185–186°.

. *Anal.* Caled for  $C_{10}H_{48}CIN_4$ ; C, 53.45; H, 5.83; Cl, 15.78, N, 24.93. Found: C, 53.30; H, 6.09; Cl, 15.71; N, 24.69.

**B.**--Ammonia was bubbled through a solution of N-p-cyanophenyl-N'-ethylcarbodiinide (prepared from 19.5 g of 1-p-cyanophenyl-3-ethyl-2-thiourea) in 1 h of ether for 30 min. The white solid which separated was collected and consisted of 8.0 g of the crystalline base. This solid was treated with 20 ml of hot 3 N ethanolic HCl. Upon cooling 6.4 g (30%) yield, based upon thiomrea) of colorless crystals, mp 191-192°, separated. The infrared spectrum of the compound was identical with that of the analytical sample prepared in method A, above.

Methyl *p*-Ethylguanidinobenzimidate Dihydrochloride (14). A cold solution of 100 ml of dry ether and 6 ml of methanol was saturated with HCl at 0°, and 1.80 g (0.008 mole) of 1-*p*-cyanophenyl-3-ethylguanidine hydrochloride was added. The toisture was shaken at room temperature in a stoppered pressure hottle for 4 hr, and allowed to stand overnight. The solid which separated was collected, washed with ether, and dried, affording 2.10 g ( $89C_{\rm C}$ ) of an off-white solid, mp 114–120° dec.

1-p-Amidinophenyl-3-ethylguanidine Dinitrate (15),—To 50 nil of cold saturated methanolic NH<sub>a</sub> was added with stirring 5.0 g (0.017 mole) of 14. After 1 hr at 0° and 2 hr at room temperature, the solid was collected and added to 25 ml of saturated aqueous NaNO<sub>4</sub>. Colorless crystals, mp 180–185°, separated. Two recrystallizations from water provided 3.6 g (64 $C_1$ ) of colorless prisms, mp 206-207°. A small portion was twice recrystallized from water, affording the analytical sample, pp 205–206°.

Anal. Caled for  $C_{\rm ph}H_{\rm G}N_5O_6$ ; C, 36,25; H, 5,17; N, 29,60, Found: C, 36,33; H, 5,44; N, 29,81.

# The Chemical Structure of a Cocarcinogen and of Phorbol Isolated from Croton Oil

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In a recent paper Arroyo and Holeomb<sup>1</sup> confirmed our earlier findings<sup>2,3</sup> on the isolation and identification of the cocarcinogenic principle A1 ( $C_{36}H_{56}O_8$ ) from croton oil. Compound A1 is one of eight cocarcinogens so far isolated as pure compounds and characterized chemically as well as biologically.<sup>4,5</sup> By partial synthesis A1 has been identified<sup>6</sup> as one of two possible

(5) E. Clarke and E. Hecker, Naturwiss., 52, 446 (1965); Z. Krehsforsch.,
67, 192 (1965).

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<sup>(1)</sup> E. R. Arroyo and J. Holcomb, J. Med. Chem., 8, 672 (1965).

<sup>(2)</sup> E. Hecker, H. Bresch, and Ch. von Szczepanski, Angew. Chem. Intern. Ed. Engl., **3**, 227 (1964); E. Hecker and H. Bresch, Z. Naturforsch., **20b**, 216 (1965).

<sup>(3)</sup> E. Hecker, H. Bresch, and J. G. Meyer, Abstracts of Papers, 1st World Fat Congress, Hamburg, 1964, p 176; see also *Fette*, *Seifen*, *Anstrichmittet*, **67**, 78 (1965).

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