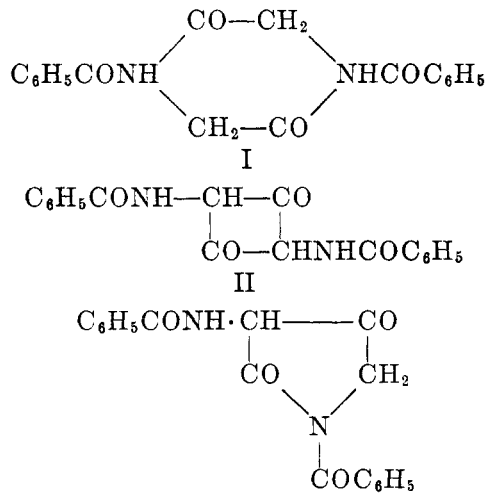
"The Isomerization of Morphine to O-Desmethylthebainone," Ulrich Weiss and Nathan Weiner, *J. Org. Chem.*, **14,** 194 (1949).

After this paper was submitted for publication, we became aware of the preparation, by Pschorr and Hoppe (1), of the "sulfur-free ketone" of the morphine series from β-ethylthiomorphide. Since the corresponding ketone of the codeine series (2) has been identified as thebainone by Morris and Small (3), the ketone from thiomorphide should be identical with our O-desmethylthebainone. The properties reported by Pschorr and Hoppe for their compound are in reasonable agreement with this assumption.

	SULFUR-FREE KETONE (PSCHORR AND HOPPE) M.P., °C.	O-DESMETHYLTHEBAINONE (WEISS AND WEINER) M.P. (CORR.), °C.
Base	215–217 (dec.)	220–221 (dec.)
Oxime	260 (dec.)	274–279 (dec.) (crude product)

(1) *Ann.*, **373,** 45 (1910).
(2) PSCHORR, *Ann.*, **373,** 15 (1910).
(3) *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **56,** 2159 (1934).

Constitution of the substance $C_{18}H_{16}N_2O_4$ obtained from hippuryl chloride, pyridine, and copper. In a paper, "The Use of Ketones in the Erlenmeyer Azlactone Synthesis", V. Boekelheide and Lois M. Schramm (1) say that we have assigned formula I to the substance which can be obtained from hippuryl chloride, pyridine, and copper powder, or in other ways (2). In this respect the above mentioned authors are mistaken. Formula I was proposed for this substance by Scheiber and Reckleben (3) and not by us; we only made reference to it (2). Later (4) we expressly emphasized the fact that formula I cannot be correct, as the authentic NN-dibenzoyldiketopiperazine,



I

II

III

which has been synthesized by Sasaki and Hashimoto (5), possesses different qualities. Even at an earlier date Rügheimer (6) proposed formula II for the same compound, but this structure also seems not to be correct, as Cornforth and Huang (7) have made formula III very probable.

P. KARRER
University of Zürich

(1) *J. Org. Chem.*, **14,** 298 (1949).
(2) *Helv. Chim. Acta*, **11,** 235 (1927).
(3) *Ber.*, **46,** 2418 (1913).
(4) *Helv. Chim. Acta*, **15,** 1420 (1932).
(5) *Ber.*, **54,** 2688 (1921).
(6) *Ber.*, **21,** 3325 (1888).
(7) *J. Chem. Soc.*, 1958 (1948).

ERRATA

"Some Reactions of Amidone," Everette L. May and Erich Mosettig, *J. Org. Chem.*, **13,** 459 (1948). Page 464, line 5, n_D^{20} 1.5888 should read 1.5588.

"1-Dodecanesulfinic Acid," C. S. Marvel and Rayner S. Johnson, *J. Org. Chem.*, **13,** 822 (1948). Page 828, line 11, acetid should read acetic; line 48, the formula $C_{14}H_{28}O_3S$ should read $C_{14}H_{28}O_4S$.

"Studies in the Juglone Series. II. Hydroxy and Hydroxyhalogeno Derivatives," R. H. Thomson, *J. Org. Chem.*, **13,** 870 (1948). Page 876 (near the bottom) (presumably the 2-acetoxy compound) should read (presumably the 3-acetoxy compound).