







TABLE I
 CARBONYLATION OF *N*-CHLORODIMETHYLAMINE^a

(CH ₃) ₂ NCl, mmol	Catalyst, g-atom	Solvent, ml	CO, kg/cm ²	(CH ₃) ₂ NCOCl, % ^b
10	Pd, 1.0	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 5	70 ^c	85
10	Pd, 0.1	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 5	65 ^c	36
10	Pd, 0.1	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 5	70	99
5	Pd, 0.5	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 2.5	5	8
10	Pd, 0.1	C ₆ H ₆ , 5	60	71
10	Pd, 0.1	CH ₃ CN, 5	60	44
10	Pd, 0.1	<i>n</i> -C ₆ H ₁₄ , 5	60	19
10	PdCl ₂ , 1.0	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 5	70 ^c	42

^a The reaction was carried out in a stainless steel pressure tube at 50° for 20 hr without stirring and shaking. ^b The yield of *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride was based on the chloramine added. ^c The reaction was carried out at room temperature.

 TABLE II
 CARBONYLATION OF OTHER DIALKYLCHLORAMINES^a

R ₂ NCl, 10 mmol	Catalyst, mmol	Solvent, ml	R ₂ NCOCl, % ^b
(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ NCl	PdCl ₂ , 1.0	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 5	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ NCOCl, 66
(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ NCl	RhCl ₃ , 1.0	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 5	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ NCOCl, 21
 NCl	PdCl ₂ , 1.0	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 5	 COCl, 53
 NCl ^c	PdCl ₂ , 0.5	C ₆ H ₆ , 4	 COCl, 80
 NCl	PdCl ₂ , 1.0	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 5	 COCl, 45
C ₆ H ₅ CH ₂ N(CH ₃)Cl	PdCl ₂ , 1.0	CH ₃ OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ , 5	C ₆ H ₅ CH ₂ N(CH ₃)COCl, 15
C ₆ H ₅ CH ₂ N(CH ₃)Cl ^c	PdCl ₂ , 0.5	CH ₃ C ₆ H ₅ , 7	C ₆ H ₅ CH ₂ N(CH ₃)COCl, 35

^a The reactions except where noted were carried out for 20 hr at room temperature under the carbon monoxide pressure of 50 kg/cm². ^b The yield of carbamoyl chloride is based on the chloramine added. ^c The reaction was carried out in a glass tube which was put in a stainless steel tube.

the yield of the tetramethylurea by-product increased to several per cents. Using 1,2-dimethoxyethane as solvent at 150°, product 2a reacted with the solvent to yield β-methoxyethyl-*N,N*-dimethylcarbamate. When pyridine was used as a solvent instead of 1,2-dimethoxyethane, the reaction did not take place and *N*-chloramine was recovered nearly quantitatively.

The carbonylation of other dialkylchloramines also proceeded using palladium chloride or rhodium trichloride as catalysts (Table II). The yields of the carbonylation products of *N*-chloropiperidine, *N*-chloromorphine, and *N*-chloro-*N*-methylbenzylamine were estimated from the amount of the corresponding urethanes derived from the carbamoyl chloride products by treatment with ethanol in the presence of triethylamine. In all cases of Table II, the ir spectra of the reaction mixtures displayed an absorption at 1735 cm⁻¹ characteristic of a carbonyl group, indicating that carbonylation took place. The occurrence of carbonylation was thus indicated. The carbamoyl chloride resulting from the carbonylation of *N*-chloropiperidine could be isolated by distillation. When the reaction was carried out in a glass tube surrounded by a stainless steel tube (as indicated by footnote *c* in Table II), the yields of the carbamoyl chlorides were improved. Otherwise, the stainless steel wall of the reaction tube may catalyze the decomposition of the chloramine or the carbamoyl chloride product.

The carbonylation reaction can also be applied to monoalkylchloramine. Since *N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride and *N*-ethylcarbamoyl chloride which are formed in the reaction are unstable when subjected to glpc analysis (*e.g.*, *N*-methylcarbamoyl chloride decomposes to methyl isocyanate and hydrogen chloride at 90°), the carbonylated products were converted to

methyl *N*-methylcarbamate and methyl *N*-ethylcarbamate, respectively, by treatment of the reaction mixture with methanol (Table III).

 TABLE III
 CARBONYLATION OF MONOALKYLCHLORAMINES

RNHCl, mmol	Catalyst, mmol	Solvent	Carbonylated product, % yield ^a
CH ₃ NHCl, ^b 5	Pd, 0.05	(<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉) ₂ O	30
C ₂ H ₅ NHCl, ^c 10	PdCl ₂ , 1.0	(C ₂ H ₅) ₂ O	22

^a The yield of product was based on the chloramine added. ^b The reaction proceeded at 50° for 20 hr under the carbon monoxide pressure of 60 kg/cm². ^c The reaction proceeded at room temperature for 20 hr under the carbon monoxide pressure of 50 kg/cm².

The carbamoyl chloride formation from chloramine and carbon monoxide does not proceed in the absence of palladium metal, palladium chloride, or rhodium trichloride catalyst. Metallic copper, silver, and nickel as well as potassium chloroplatinate were not effective at least under reaction conditions of the present study.

Experimental Section

Materials.—Unless otherwise indicated, the reagents and authentic samples were obtained commercially. 1,2-Dimethoxyethane, benzene, *n*-hexane, di-*n*-butyl ether, and diethyl ether were dried by refluxing over sodium wire and distilled. Pyridine was dried over calcium hydride and distilled. Acetonitrile was dried over phosphorus pentoxide and distilled. The carbon monoxide cylinder was a commercial one.

Preparation of *N*-Haloalkylamines.—*N*-Chloramines were prepared according to the procedures given by Coleman.³ *N*-Chlorodimethylamine (bp 46°), *N*-chlorodiethylamine [bp 41°

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(95 mm)], *N*-chloropiperidine [bp 54.5–55° (35 mm)], and *N*-chloromorpholine [bp 47° (17 mm)] were isolated by fractional distillation. *N*-Chloro-*N*-methylbenzylamine was prepared from *N*-methylbenzylamine-HCl and sodium hypochlorite in an aqueous medium. The oily layer which was separated from the reaction mixture was dried over calcium chloride and subjected to the carbonylation reaction without purification by distillation. *N*-Chloroalkylamines were prepared from the monoalkylamine-HCl and sodium hypochlorite in the presence of ether. The ether layer was dried over calcium chloride and was subjected directly to the carbonylation reaction.

Carbonylations of Dialkylchloramines (Tables I and II).—A typical procedure is as follows. In a 50-ml stainless steel tube, palladium metal (commercial palladium metal was used directly), 0.0106 g (0.1 g-atom), *N*-chlorodimethylamine (10 mmol), and solvent (1,2-dimethoxyethane was usually employed) (5 ml) were placed and then carbon monoxide was compressed. The tube was closed and was heated at a desired temperature for about 20 hr. Then carbon monoxide was purged off and the reaction mixture was subjected to glpc analysis (a column packed with silicon on Celite was used). The products were identified by comparison of the glpc retention time and ir spectrum with the authentic *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl chloride. In the cases of *N*-chloropiperidine, *N*-chloromorpholine, and *N*-chloro-*N*-methylbenzylamine, the yields of the products were determined by the glpc analysis of the corresponding urethanes which were formed by treatment of the reaction mixture with excess ethanol in the presence of triethylamine.

Carbonylations of Monoalkylchloramines (Table III).—The following example illustrates the procedure used in the carbonylations of monoalkylchloramines. In a 50-ml stainless steel tube, palladium metal, 0.0053 g (0.05 g-atom), and *N*-chloromethylamine ether solution (5 mmol) were placed, and then carbon monoxide was compressed up to 60 kg/cm² at -78°. The tube was closed and was heated at 50° for 20 hr. The carbon monoxide was purged off, and excess methanol and triethylamine were added to the reaction mixture. The product was identified and its yield was estimated by the form of methyl *N*-methylcarbamate by glpc.

Registry No.—1 ($R_1 = R_2 = H$), 10599-90-3; 1 ($R_1 = R_2 = CH_3$), 1585-74-6; 2 ($R_1 = R_2 = H$), 463-72-9; carbon monoxide, 630-08-0.

A Convenient Synthesis of Pteric Acid¹

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Previous syntheses of pteric acid^{2–10} result in preparations that are contaminated with simple pteridines, presenting a formidable problem of purification. The reductive condensation of 2-acetyl-amino-4-hydroxy-6-

formylpteridine with *p*-aminobenzoic acid or with ethyl *p*-aminobenzoate by formic acid or aryl thiols¹¹ was found to be unsatisfactory, giving variable yields of pteric acid containing large amounts of pteridine impurities. The present note describes an improved version of the latter synthesis in which pteric acid is obtained free of contaminating pteridines, thus avoiding the problem of purification.

Ethyl *p*-aminobenzoate and 2-acetyl-amino-4-hydroxy-6-formylpteridine in glacial acetic acid afforded the corresponding Schiff's base, which without isolation was reduced to ethyl *N*²-acetylpterate by dimethylamine borane, a procedure introduced by Billman and McDowell¹² for the reduction of aromatic Schiff's bases. Saponification of the ethyl ester of *N*²-acetylpterate so obtained gave pure pteric acid which traveled as a single spot on paper chromatography and was free of all fluorescent pteridines. Conversion of this pteric acid to dihydrofolic and tetrahydrofolic acids gave compounds that showed full enzymatic activity with dihydrofolate reductase of the L 1210 murine leukemia and with thymidylate synthetase of *E. Coli*.

Dimethylamine borane appears to be the reagent of choice for the reduction of this Schiff's base. The complete reduction of the 9,10 double bond before reaction at the 5,6 or 7,8 positions is noteworthy. Continued reduction with more amine borane gives dihydro- and tetrahydropterates. Under these conditions, the acetylpteridine aldehyde alone is reduced in the pyrazine ring before reaction at the carbonyl group takes place.

Experimental Section¹³

Glacial acetic acid (5 ml) was added to a mixture of 330 mg (2 mmol) of ethyl *p*-aminobenzoate and 307 mg (1 mmol) of 2-acetyl-amino-4-hydroxy-6-formylpteridine dimethylformamide monosolvate.¹⁴ The mixture was stirred briefly. Then a solution of 100 mg of dimethylamine borane in 1.5 ml of glacial acetic acid was added. The suspension turned bright yellow. Stirring was continued at ambient temperature for 20 min. The suspension was warmed to 60° for 10 min and cooled to 25°. The solid was filtered and washed with 5 ml of glacial acetic acid, then with 10 ml of anhydrous ether. The solid was dried at ambient temperature in the dark to give 384 mg (100%) of pale yellow ethyl *N*²-acetylpterate. The solid was dissolved in 5 ml of hot (100°) dimethylformamide and cooled to 30°. Then 2 ml of anhydrous ether was added with stirring to give a homogeneous solution. After standing at ambient temperature, ethyl *N*²-acetylpterate began to crystallize. The flask was stored in a freezer (-35°) overnight. The solid was filtered, washed with anhydrous ether, and dried. This procedure gave 322 mg (84%) of the ethyl ester. The nmr spectrum in deuterated trifluoroacetic acid showed a triplet at δ 0.97 (3 H, $J = 7$ cps, ester CH₃), singlet at 2.0 (3 H, acetyl CH₃), quartet at 4.07 (2 H, $J = 7$ cps, ester CH₂), singlet at 4.84 (2 H, bridge CH₂), doublet at 7.35 (2 H, $J = 9$ cps, benzene CH), doublet at 7.88 (2 H, $J = 9$ cps, benzene CH), and a singlet at 8.67 (1 H, pteridine CH).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₃N₅O₄: C, 56.53; H, 4.74; N, 21.98. Found: C, 56.5; H, 5.0; N, 21.8.

The solid ester was saponified with 50 ml of 0.10 *N* sodium hydroxide solution at 100° (under N₂) for 0.5 hr while protected

(1) This work was supported by U. S. Public Health Service Grant No. CA 11449.

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