

Haworth, Perkin and Rankin¹⁰ in separating the benzoic acid formed simultaneously. From this, homoveratric acid was produced by oxidation with hydrogen dioxide, as already recorded by Cain, Simonsen and Smith,¹¹ and this acid, when treated with thionyl chloride in chloroform solution, gave the acid chloride desired, as has been shown by Haworth, Perkin and Rankin.¹⁰

The preparation of homoveratroylamino-veratraldehyde from the acid chloride and 6-amino-veratraldehyde was accomplished in a well-cooled 50% acetic acid solution, in the presence of sodium acetate; yield of crude product (m. p. 138.5–139.5°), 50%. Recrystallized from alcohol and decolorized by norite, it formed colorless needles, m. p. 141.2–142.2° (corr.).

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₉H₂₁O₆N: C, 63.48; H, 5.86. Found: C, 63.85; H, 6.16.

The Schotten-Baumann method was also employed, but was not satisfactory. Free acids or free bases, of course, must be carefully avoided in this reaction, because of the ease with which *o*-aminobenzaldehydes form condensation products.

(10) Haworth, Perkin and Rankin, *J. Chem. Soc.*, **126**, 1693 (1924).

(11) Cain, Simonsen and Smith, *ibid.*, **103**, 1036 (1913).

2-Veratryl-6,7-dimethoxyquinazoline (II).—A mixture of 1 g. of homoveratroylamino-veratraldehyde with 15 cc. of methanol saturated with ammonia was heated in a sealed tube for two hours at 100–120° and left in the furnace overnight, to cool to room temperature. From the tube contents, there was isolated 0.77 g. of crystals, which were recrystallized from ligroin until the melting point remained constant at 134–135° (corr.). The pure compound consisted of colorless needles, freely soluble in chloroform, carbon bisulfide, ethyl acetate, acetone or benzene, moderately soluble in water or methyl alcohol, very slightly in cold ligroin, and practically insoluble in petroleum ether.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₉H₂₀O₄N₂: C, 67.02; H, 5.92; N, 8.24. Found: C, 67.47; H, 5.73; N, 8.00.

Summary

The synthesis of 2-veratryl-6,7-dimethoxyquinazoline is recorded, a compound structurally related to papaverine. Its pharmacological properties have not yet been studied.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

RECEIVED MAY 18, 1935

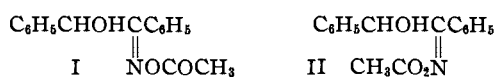
[CONTRIBUTION FROM THE CHEMICAL LABORATORY OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY]

The Action of Alkali on Certain Acylated Ketoximes. I. The Effect of Structure and Configuration

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In an earlier communication¹ we reported that the acetate of α -benzoin oxime (I) on treatment with 5% aqueous sodium hydroxide was cleaved to benzaldehyde, benzonitrile and sodium acetate, while the stereoisomeric β -benzoin oxime acetate (II) under the same conditions was hydrolyzed without cleavage. Preparatory to a study of the mechanism of this cleavage process we thought it advisable to examine the behavior of a number of acylated ketoximes toward aqueous alkali. We chose first, in order to determine to what extent cleavage is conditioned by structure, a number of oxime acetates derived from structurally varied ketones. We chose next, in order to determine to what extent cleavage is conditioned by configuration, a series of acyl derivatives of α - and β -benzoin oximes. From our results, together with those already available in the literature, it

is possible to define the limits of the cleavage reaction and, therefore, its usefulness. Since these features are quite independent of the mechanism proper we report on them briefly at this time.



From our results (Table I) and those already published by other workers it follows that the structural factor in an acylated ketoxime² which determines the occurrence of cleavage is the presence α to the C=N linkage of an hydroxyl group, a carboxyl group³ or a carbonyl group⁴—

(2) The type of cleavage which we are considering has long been known to occur with acylated aldioximes [Hantzsch, *Ber.*, **24**, 36 (1891)], but we are limiting the present discussion to ketoximes where a carbon-carbon linkage is broken in the cleavage process.

(3) Hantzsch, *ibid.*, **24**, 43 (1891).

(4) Meisenheimer, (a) *ibid.*, **54**, 3213 (1921); (b) *Ann.*, **446**, 228 (1926). See also Reference 1.

(1) Blatt and Barnes, *THIS JOURNAL*, **56**, 1148 (1934).