

Table I. Vanadium and Phase Transfer Catalyzed Dehalogenation of 4^a

halide	reactn time, h	product	yield, ^b %
2-(bromomethyl)-naphthalene	0.23	2-methylnaphthalene	76
	3 ^c		
	20	2-methylnaphthalene	7 ^d
	0.23	2-methylnaphthalene	92 ^e
1-(chloromethyl)-naphthalene	0.3	1-methylnaphthalene	74
bromodiphenylmethane	6	diphenylmethane	62
<i>p</i> -chlorobenzyl chloride	6	<i>p</i> -chlorotoluene	44
<i>p</i> -methoxybenzyl chloride	2	<i>p</i> -methylanisole	50
<i>o</i> -methylbenzyl chloride	0.33	<i>o</i> -xylene	47 ^f
chloromethyl phenyl sulfone	2.5	methyl phenyl sulfone	76 ^f
2-chloroacetophenone	0.5	acetophenone	39
2-bromoacetophenone	0.08	acetophenone	54
β -bromostyrene	4	styrene	38
2-bromo-naphthalene	25	naphthalene	72
bromocyclohexane	16	cyclohexane	66
1-bromooctane	18	octane	60

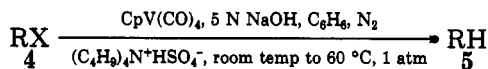
^aAll reactions were run at 60 °C except where noted otherwise (see Experimental Section for general procedure). ^bYields are of pure materials. Products were identified by comparison of spectral data and physical properties with those for authentic materials. ^cNo $CpV(CO)_4$. ^dNo phase-transfer agent. ^eCarbon monoxide atmosphere. ^fReaction at room temperature.

bered nitro compounds and of effecting the stereospecific conversion of α,β -unsaturated ketones to 1-acyl-2-methyl-*trans*-4,5-diarylcyclopentenes.

Results and Discussion

Treatment of (η^5 -cyclopentadienyl)vanadium tetracarbonyl in benzene with 5 N sodium hydroxide and tetrabutylammonium hydrogen sulfate, at room temperature and 1 atm, afforded the anionic hydridotricarbonylvanadate 3, $R = n-C_4H_9$. Spectral data [IR (CH_3CN) ν_{CO} 1887, 1776 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR (CD_3CN) δ 4.68 (s, 5 H, C_5H_5), -6.28 (s (br), 1 H, HV)] for 3 are in good accord with literature data for the related bis(triphenylphosphine)-nitrogen (1+) salt.⁸

Prior to effecting new chemistry with 3, the phase transfer process was applied to the previously described dehalogenation of organic halides.⁸ Reaction of a benzylic chloride or bromide (4, $R = ArCH_2$ or Ar_2CH ; $X = Cl, Br$)



with an equimolar amount of 1, 5 N NaOH, benzene, and tetrabutylammonium hydrogen sulfate as the phase transfer catalyst gave the reduced material in 44–76% yields (see Table I for results). The reaction is quite facile, and similar product yields were realized when an electron-donating (OCH_3) or withdrawing (Cl) substituent was present on the arene ring of a benzylic halide. The reaction can proceed at room temperature (e.g. 4, $R = o-CH_3C_6H_4CH_2$, $X = Cl$) or at 60 °C. No reaction occurs in the absence of the vanadium carbonyl while poor product yields resulted with use of a biphasic system (i.e. no phase transfer agent).

Other activated chlorides, including chloromethyl phenyl sulfone and 2-chloroacetophenone, are also dehalogenated

Table II. Reduction of Nitroarenes by 1 under Phase Transfer Catalysis Conditions^a

substrate	reactn time, min	product	yield, ^b %
nitrobenzene	15	aniline	75 ^c
	80	aniline	78 (71) ^d
<i>o</i> -nitrotoluene	20	<i>o</i> -toluidine	83
<i>m</i> -nitrotoluene	25	<i>m</i> -toluidine	82
<i>p</i> -nitrotoluene	40	<i>p</i> -toluidine	88
<i>o</i> -nitroanisole	20	<i>o</i> -anisidine	85
<i>m</i> -nitroanisole	20	<i>m</i> -anisidine	77
<i>p</i> -nitroanisole	45	<i>p</i> -anisidine	74 ^e
<i>o</i> -isopropyl-nitrobenzene	20	<i>o</i> -isopropylaniline	99 (82)
<i>o</i> -nitrobiphenyl	60	<i>o</i> -aminobiphenyl	94 (80)
<i>m</i> -nitrobiphenyl	60	<i>m</i> -aminobiphenyl	87 (68)
2,6-dimethyl-nitrobenzene	60	2,6-dimethylaniline	98
4-nitrostilbene	10	4-aminostilbene	(76)
4-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ C-H=CHCO-Ph	30	4-NH ₂ C ₆ H ₄ CH ₂ CH ₂ COPh	66

^aReaction conditions: $CpV(CO)_4$, 5 N NaOH, C_6H_6 , $(C_4H_9)_4N^+HSO_4^-$, 60 °C, 1 atm. N_2 ; see Experimental Section for details.

^bYields are by gas chromatography, except those in parentheses which are isolated yields. ^c68% yield, 180 min, room temperature.

^dUsing $C_{12}H_{25}N(CH_3)_2C_2H_5^+Br^-$ as the phase transfer catalyst.

^e11% in the absence of $(C_4H_9)_4N^+HSO_4^-$ (180 min, 60 °C).

by 1 under the phase transfer conditions. While aryl (2-bromonaphthalene) and vinyl bromides (β -bromostyrene) react to give the corresponding debrominated products, chloroarenes such as 1-chloronaphthalene and 2-chlorothiophene are recovered unchanged after attempted reaction at 60 °C for 48 h. The reaction can be applied to aliphatic halides (e.g. 1-bromooctane).

The phase transfer dehalogenation of halides, like the homogeneous reaction, probably occurs by a radical pathway. If one uses 6-bromo-1-hexene as the reactant, then 1-hexene and methylcyclopentane are formed in a ratio of 0.77, consistent with the intermediacy of a radical species.⁸

With the knowledge that the vanadium hydride is able to dehalogenate a variety of organic compounds under phase transfer conditions, the biphasic system was employed for other reduction reactions. The hydride 3, generated in situ, is an excellent reagent for the reduction of nitroarenes to aromatic amines in fine yields (Table II). What is particularly significant about this facile reductive process is its utilization for the conversion of ortho-substituted nitro compounds including those containing a bulky substituent (e.g. phenyl, isopropyl) at the 2-position of a benzene ring or methyl groups at the 2- and 6-positions (e.g. 2,6-dimethylnitrobenzene). This method is superior to the use of other transition-metal hydrides for the reduction of such nitro compounds. Poor product yields resulted when these reactions were effected in the absence of the phase transfer agent. The reduction can occur in the presence of ether or olefinic substituents, while the double bond of an α,β -unsaturated ketone functionality is also reduced.

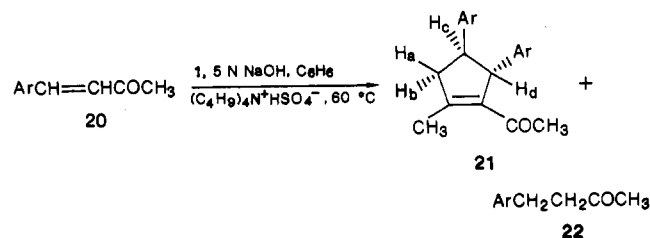
The reactivity of the sterically encumbered nitro compounds is high with reactions being complete within an hour at 60 °C and 1 atm. Nevertheless, nitrobenzene and nitroarenes containing substituents at the meta or para positions are usually more reactive than substrates having one or more ortho substituents. For instance, comparison of the proportion of amines formed from *p*-nitrotoluene and from 2,6-dimethylnitrobenzene indicates that the initial reaction rate for *p*-nitrotoluene is greater than that for 2,6-dimethylnitrobenzene (Figure 1). However, with

Table IV. Pertinent Spectral Data for 21

21, Ar =	1H NMR, ^a δ	^{13}C NMR, ^b δ	MS, m/e [M ⁺]
Ph	1.83 (s, 3 H, COCH ₃), 2.18 (m, 3 H, CH ₃), 2.66 (dd, 1 H, H _a), 3.03 (dd, 1 H, H _b), 3.16 (m, 1 H, H _c), 4.19 (m, 1 H, H _d), 7.00–7.30 (m, 10 H, Ph)		276
<i>p</i> -CH ₃ OC ₆ H ₄	1.87 (s, 3 H, COCH ₃), 2.17 (m, 3 H, CH ₃), 2.59 (dd, 1 H, H _a), 2.96 (dd, 1 H, H _b), 3.08 (m, 1 H, H _c), 3.76 (s, 3 H, OCH ₃), 4.07 (m, 1 H, H _d), 6.74–7.05 (m, 8 H, aromatic protons)	16.62 (CH ₃), 30.03 (COCH ₃), 47.19 (CH ₂), 52.56 (CH), 55.17, 55.22 (OCH ₃), 61.50 (CH), 113.85, 114.04, 127.96, 128.19, 136.48, 136.83, 138.11, 152.78, 158.14, 158.23 (olefinic and aromatic carbons), 199.39 (CO)	336
<i>p</i> -ClC ₆ H ₄	1.89 (s, 3 H, COCH ₃), 2.27 (m, 3 H, CH ₃), 2.59–3.13 (m, 3 H, H _{a-c}), 4.11 (m, 1 H, H _d), 6.93–7.26 (m, 8 H, aromatic protons)		344, 346, 348
2,4-(CH ₃) ₂ C ₆ H ₃	1.87 (s, 3 H, COCH ₃), 2.18 (m, 3 H, CH ₃), 2.17, 2.19, 2.23, 2.26 (s, each 12 H, CH ₃ 's on aromatic rings), 2.50 (dd, 1 H, H _a), 3.01 (dd, 1 H, H _b), 3.34 (m, 1 H, H _c), 4.26 (m, 1 H, H _d), 6.85–7.26 (m, 6 H, aromatic protons)	16.75 (olefinic CH ₃), 19.42, 19.60, 20.86, 20.92 (aromatic methyls), 29.76 (COCH ₃), 47.32 (CH ₂), 47.61 (CH), 56.91 (CH), 125.61, 125.91, 127.09, 127.23, 130.98, 131.18, 135.23, 135.28, 135.46, 135.64, 138.32, 139.97, 140.82, 153.20 (olefinic and aromatic carbons), 199.02 (CO)	332
<i>p</i> -CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄	1.86 (s, 3 H, COCH ₃), 2.26, 2.29, 2.38 (s, each, 9 H, methyls), 2.59 (dd, 1 H, H _a), 2.99 (dd, 1 H, H _b), 3.11 (m, 1 H, H _c), 4.11 (m, 1 H, H _d), 6.89–7.09 (m, 8 H, aromatic protons)	16.63 (olefinic CH ₃), 20.97, 21.02 (aromatic methyls), 47.36 (CH ₂), 52.67 (CH), 61.79 (CH), 126.86, 126.95, 129.22, 129.39, 135.92, 136.05, 137.93, 141.42, 142.03, 153.10 (olefinic and aromatic carbons), 199.26 (CO)	304

^a CDCl₃ with tetramethylsilane as internal standard. Structural assignments are based on COSY and other decoupling experiments.
^b CDCl₃ with tetramethylsilane as the internal standard.

involving a benzylic radical and that 19 is formed from 18 under the basic conditions (i.e. 1 is required for forming 17 and 18, but not for the cyclization reaction), then replacement of the benzoyl unit for the reactant by acyl should result in a more facile route to compounds of structural type 19 or their dehydrated analogues. Use of 20, Ar = Ph, as the substrate afforded 1-acyl-2-methyl-*trans*-4,5-diphenylcyclopentene (21, Ar = Ph) in 70% yield, together with 21% of the saturated ketone 22 (Ar = Ph).

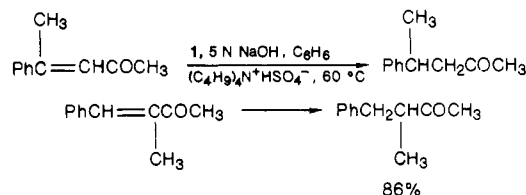


Only traces of products were detected when the reaction was effected without the phase transfer agent, while neither 21 nor 22 was formed in the absence of the vanadium complex 1. Use of carbon monoxide instead of nitrogen has little influence on the reaction of 20. One can run the reaction of 20 with 1 at room temperature rather than at 60 °C but at an appreciably reduced rate. It is interesting to note that the analogue of 19 was formed when the reaction of benzylideneacetophenone was repeated by using 100 mL instead of 25 mL of benzene (i.e. lower effective base concentration).

trans-Diarylcyclopentenes (21) were isolated as the principal products from reaction of a series of unsaturated ketones of structural type 20 in which the arene ring contained an electron-donating or -withdrawing group (see Table III for results). The stereochemistry of 21 was established on the basis of nuclear magnetic resonance¹⁵ and mass spectral data (Table IV) and an X-ray analysis of 21 [Ar = 2,4-(CH₃)₂C₆H₃] (to be published separately). Note that these reductive cyclization reactions are semicatalytic

in nature with substrate:1 ratios being as high as 8.6:1.0 (Table III).

Finally, the presence of a methyl substituent on the double bond of 20 results in the reduction of the unsaturated function.



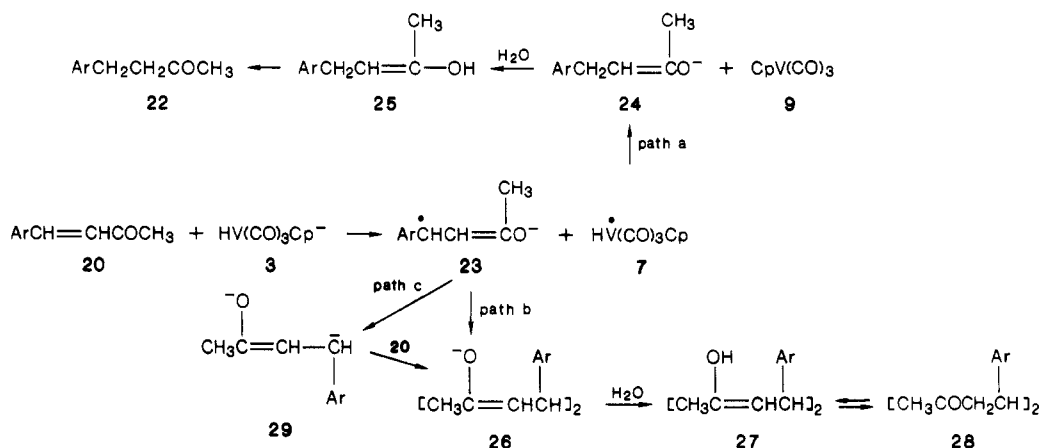
In Scheme II is outlined a possible mechanism for the reaction of 20 with in situ generated 3. Single electron transfer from the hydride 3 to 20 would generate the radical anion 23 and 7. Hydrogen atom transfer may then occur (path a) affording 9 and 24. Protonation of the latter would give 22 (via 25). An alternate reaction course (path b) is the dimerization of 23 to 26 followed by protonation (27) and tautomerism to 28. Base-induced cyclodehydration of 28 would result in the formation of 21. Finally, 23 can experience a second electron transfer affording 29 which can undergo Michael addition to the substrate 20 giving 26 (path c).

In conclusion, phase transfer catalysis enables one to generate $CpV(CO)_3H^-$ under remarkably simple conditions. This methodology avoids the requirements for anhydrous, inert-atmosphere conditions or the use of amalgam or dispersion techniques. This research has demonstrated the utility of the hydride as an excellent reagent for the reduction of hindered nitro compounds, the stereospecific, semicatalytic, cyclodehydration of acyclic α,β -unsaturated ketones with cyclic ketones undergoing double bond reduction (not observed under homogeneous conditions), and the dehalogenation of a wide range of halides. These are the first examples of the use of phase transfer catalysis in the area of early-transition-metal chemistry.

Experimental Section

Melting point determinations were made by using a Fisher-Johns apparatus. Gas chromatographic determinations were made

Scheme II



on a Varian Vista 6000, 3300, or 3400 chromatograph. Columns used for analysis included 3% OV-17 or OV-101 on Chromosorb W or a DB1 megabore column. Proton and carbon-13 magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on a Varian XL-300 spectrometer. A VG-7070E spectrometer was used for mass spectral determinations, and infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 783 spectrometer.

All of the organic reactants were purchased from commercial sources and were used as received. Cyclopentadienylvanadium tetracarbonyl was either prepared following a literature procedure¹⁶ or purchased from Strem Chemical Co. Solvents were purified by standard methods.

Generation of $(\text{C}_4\text{H}_9)_4\text{N}^+\text{CpV}(\text{CO})_3\text{H}^-$. A mixture of 0.228 g (1.0 mmol) of cyclopentadienylvanadium tetracarbonyl in benzene (10 mL) and 0.363 g (1.10 mmol) of tetrabutylammonium hydrogen sulfate in 5 N sodium hydroxide (10 mL) was stirred overnight at room temperature. The phases were separated, and the organic phase was concentrated affording a yellow solid. The latter was filtered, washed with water (3×10 mL) and cold ether, and then vacuum dried to give bright yellow $(\text{C}_4\text{H}_9)_4\text{N}^+\text{CpV}(\text{CO})_3\text{H}^-$ in 87% yield: IR (CH_3CN) ν_{CO} 1887, 1776 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CD_3CN) δ 4.68 (s, 5 H, C_5H_5), -6.28 (s (br), 1 H, HV).

General Procedure for the Reaction of Halides with $\text{CpV}(\text{CO})_4$. Nitrogen was bubbled for 15 min through a mixture of benzene (10 mL) and 5 N NaOH (10 mL) containing 0.85 g (0.25 mmol) of tetrabutylammonium hydrogen sulfate. Cyclopentadienylvanadium tetracarbonyl (0.228 g, 1.0 mmol) was added, and the temperature of the stirred mixture was gradually increased to 60 °C. The halide (1.0 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred for the period indicated in Table I. During the course of the reaction, the organic phase turns from orange to a pale color. The phases were separated; the organic phase was washed with brine, dried (Na_2SO_4), and concentrated by rotary evaporation to give the product. Purification, if required, was effected by preparative thin-layer chromatography (silica gel) or by distillation.

General Procedure for the Reduction of Nitroarenes by $\text{CpV}(\text{CO})_4$. Except for the use of the nitro reactant instead of halide, the procedure was identical with that described for the halide-vanadium reaction. For competition experiments with two different nitro compounds at the same time, the usual procedure was followed with the presence of 1.0 mmol of the second nitro compound.

General Procedure for the Reaction of α,β -Unsaturated Ketones with $\text{CpV}(\text{CO})_4$. The procedure described for the halide reaction was followed, with the following modifications: 1.0 mmol of the α,β -unsaturated ketone was used instead of halide, and less than 1.0 mmol of cyclopentadienylvanadium tetracarbonyl was used (see Table III). When 1,3-diphenyl-2-propen-1-one was

employed as the reactant, the products 17–19 were separated by using a Harrison 7924 chromatotron. Preparative thin-layer chromatography (silica gel) with 5:1 hexane/ethyl acetate as the developing solvent system was used to isolate pure products from all other reactions involving α,β -unsaturated carbonyls.

Acknowledgment. We are indebted to British Petroleum and to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council for support of this research. We are grateful to Dr. S. Gambarotta (Groningen) for providing us with some (η^5 -cyclopentadienyl)vanadium tetracarbonyl.

Registry No. 1, 12108-04-2; 3 (R = C_4H_9), 116926-71-7; 17, 1083-30-3; 18, 7028-45-7; 19, 33418-22-3; 20 (Ar = Ph), 122-57-6; 20 (Ar = *p*- ClC_6H_4), 3160-40-5; 20 (Ar = *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4$), 943-88-4; 20 (Ar = 3,4-(CH_3O) $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$), 15001-27-1; 20 (Ar = *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$), 3160-38-1; 20 (Ar = 2,4-(CH_3) $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$), 55793-96-9; 21 (Ar = Ph), 33525-38-1; 21 (Ar = *p*- ClC_6H_4), 116910-96-4; 21 (Ar = *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4$), 116910-97-5; 21 (Ar = 3,4-(CH_3O) $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$), 116910-98-6; 21 (Ar = *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$), 116910-99-7; 21 (Ar = 2,4-(CH_3) $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$), 116911-00-3; 22 (Ar = Ph), 2550-26-7; 22 (Ar = *p*- ClC_6H_4), 3506-75-0; 22 (Ar = *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4$), 104-20-1; 22 (Ar = 3,4-(CH_3O) $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$), 6302-60-9; 22 (Ar = *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$), 7774-79-0; 22 (Ar = 2,4-(CH_3) $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$), 55793-97-0; $\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_2\text{Br}$, 2695-47-8; $\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3$, 592-41-6; *p*- $\text{O}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}=\text{CHCOPh}$, 1222-98-6; (Ph) $_2\text{CHBr}$, 776-74-9; *p*- $\text{ClC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$, 104-83-6; *p*- $\text{MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$, 824-94-2; *o*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$, 552-45-4; *o*- $\text{ClC}_6\text{H}_4\text{COCH}_3$, 532-27-4; *o*- $\text{BrC}_6\text{H}_4\text{COCH}_3$, 70-11-1; PhCH=CHBr, 103-64-0; $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{CH}_2\text{Br}$, 111-83-1; (Ph) $_2\text{CH}_2$, 101-81-5; *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{Cl}$, 106-43-4; *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{OCH}_3$, 104-93-8; *o*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_3$, 95-47-6; PhCOCH $_3$, 98-86-2; PhCH=CH $_2$, 100-42-5; $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{CH}_3$, 111-65-9; PhNO $_2$, 98-95-3; *o*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 88-72-2; *m*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 99-08-1; *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 99-99-0; *o*- $\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 91-23-6; *m*- $\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 555-03-3; *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 100-17-4; *o*-(CH_3) $_2\text{CHC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 6526-72-3; *o*-PhC $_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 86-00-0; *m*-PhC $_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2$, 2113-58-8; 2,6-(Me) $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{NO}_2$, 81-20-9; *p*-NO $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}=\text{CHPh}$, 4003-94-5; *p*-NO $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}=\text{CHCOPh}$, 1222-98-6; PhNH $_2$, 62-53-3; *o*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$, 95-53-4; *m*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$, 108-44-1; *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$, 106-49-0; *o*- $\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$, 90-04-0; *m*- $\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$, 536-90-3; *p*- $\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$, 104-94-9; *o*-(CH_3) $_2\text{CHC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$, 643-28-7; *o*-PhC $_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$, 90-41-5; *m*-PhC $_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$, 2243-47-2; 2,6-(Me) $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{NH}_2$, 87-62-7; *p*-NH $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_2\text{COPh}$, 59276-79-8; methylcyclopentane, 96-37-7; 2-cyclohexen-1-one, 930-68-7; cyclohexanone, 108-94-1; 2-cyclopenten-1-one, 930-30-3; cyclopentanone, 120-92-3; benzylideneacetophenone, 94-41-7; 2-(bromomethyl)naphthalene, 939-26-4; 1-(chloromethyl)naphthalene, 86-52-2; chloromethyl phenyl sulfone, 7205-98-3; 2-bromonaphthalene, 580-13-2; bromocyclohexane, 108-85-0; 2-methylnaphthalene, 91-57-6; 1-methylnaphthalene, 90-12-0; methyl phenyl sulfone, 3112-85-4; naphthalene, 91-20-3; cyclohexane, 110-82-7.

(16) King, R. B. *Organomet. Synth.* 1965, 1, 105.