#### NOTES

rivatives were produced.

(3) In the reactions with their sodium salts, O-acetyl derivatives were produced, containing a small amount of C-acetyl derivatives.

Some experimental results were cited in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 2. Some physical constants of O-acetyl derivatives obtained from phenol, resorcine, phloroglucine and dimedone.

O-acetyl derivative	Physical properties		
	m.p. (°C)	b.p. (°Ĉ)	$n_{ m D}^{20}$
OAc		111 (60 mm.)	1.5200
OAc		135-7 (7 mm.)	1.5328
OAc		130-1 (7 mm.)	1.5034
OAc	105-7		-
me H <sub>2</sub> -OAc OH		128-132 (15 mm.)	1.4814

# Reaction of Ketene with Ethyl Acetoacetate in the Presence of Pyridine

Toshizo ISOSHIMA\* (Nodzu Laboratory) Received June 25, 1954

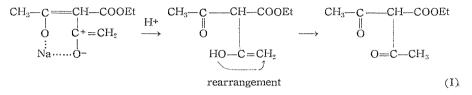
In the presence of a very small amount of pyridine, ketene was reacted with ethyl acetoacetate above  $-20^{\circ}$ C, and a reaction product rich in O-acetyl- (II), poor in C-acetyl ethyl acetoacetate (I), was obtained.

\*磺島敏三

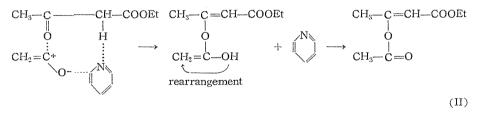
#### NOTES

On the other hand, when an equimolar amount of pyridine was used above  $-40^{\circ}$ C, O-acetyl derivative was a sole product, no C-acetyl derivative being formed.

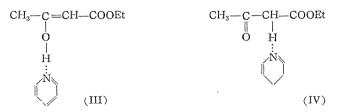
A mechanism of the formation of C-acetyl derivative in the reaction<sup>1)</sup> of ketene with sodium salt of ethyl acetoacetate is probably as follows:



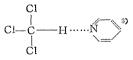
The formation of O-acetyl derivative in the presence of pyridine may occur through following mechanism.



The author anticipates the presences of H-bonding (III) or (IV) between ethyl acetoacetate and pyridine. The H-bonding (III), however, was denied by Le Fèvre<sup>2</sup>).



Though the presence of H-bonding (IV) has not yet been confirmed, it is quite probable, taking into account that the H-bonding in



and in

<sup>C1</sup>→0→H…N→<sup>4)</sup>

was already proved, and  $pK_A$  values of *O*-chlorophnol ( $pK_A = 10 - 11$ ) and ethyl acetoacetate ( $pK_A = 10.7$ )<sup>5</sup>) are almost equal.

### REFERENCES

(1) T.Isoshima, This Bulletin, 31, 382 (1953).

## NOTES

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- (4) L.V.Lemmerman et al., *ibid.*, 68, 1361 (1946).
- (5) R.P.Bell, Trans. Faraday Soc., 39, 253 (1943).