New Type of T-Reactions in the Synthesis of Zwitterionic Heterocycles

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Condensation of substituted *o*-phenylenediamines (1a,b) with alloxan (2) as well as with 5,5-dichloro-1,3-dimethylbarbituric acid (3) could be expected to yield respective 5-imino derivatives (4).

We have found that the above reactions yield benzimidazole derivatives (7a,b) via unstable intermediates 4 which could not be isolated. The rearrangement of intermediates 4 can be regarded as a new example of the so-called T-reaction. Tentatively, this rearrangement involves also the stage of 1,5-hydride shift (by analogy with [1]) followed by cyclization of derivatives 5 into compounds 6. The latter ones could be readily oxidized with starting substrates (2 or 3) into respective zwitterionic benzimidazoles 7.

The structure of synthesized compounds was confirmed by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and mass spectra. Compounds 7a,b are mesomeric betaines with a positive charge distributed over the N–C–N triad in the benzimidazole moiety and a negative charge, over the β-dicarbonyl system in the pyrimidine cycle.

[1] Meth-Cohn O. // Adv. Heterocycl. Chem. 1996. Vol. 65. P. 1.