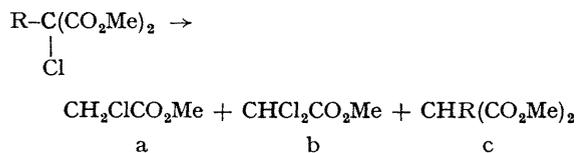


the other hand, in the thermolysis of dichloromalonate, dichloroacetate was the principal product.



	Conversion	a	b	c
R = H 230°, 10 h	99%	40%	8%	52%
R = Cl 265°, 2.5 h	81	21	60	19

Dimethyl alkylhalogeno- and monohalogeno-malonates, except the compounds containing active β -hydrogen, undergo hydrogen-halogen exchange reaction a little more readily than the demethoxycarbonylation. However, dimethyl dihalogenomalonates do undergo demethoxycarbonylation.

(Received, June 17th, 1970; Com 942.)

¹ W. Ando, H. Matuyama, S. Nakaido, and T. Migita, *Tetrahedron Letters*, 1969, 3825.

² C. H. DePuy and R. W. King, *Chem. Rev.*, 1960, **60**, 431.

³ A. Maccoll, *Adv. Phys. Org. Chem.*, 1965, **3**, 91.