## Cycloadditions of *anhydro*-2,3-Diphenyl-4-hydroxythiazolium Hydroxides: Reaction with Dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate

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Summary anhydro-2,3-Diphenyl-4-hydroxythiazolium hydroxide readily underwent cycloaddition with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate to dimethyl 1,6-diphenyl-2-pyridone-4,5-dicarboxylate with extrusion of sulphur, whereas anhydro-4-hydroxy-2,3,5-triphenylthiazolium hydroxide under the same conditions gave dimethyl 2,5-diphenylthiophen-3,4-dicarboxylate with elimination of phenyl isocyanate.

CYCLOADDITION reactions of mesoionic ring systems studied<sup>1</sup> to date may be interpreted in terms of 1,3-dipolar type intermediates except for the reaction of dimethyl azodicarboxylate with *anhydro*-2,3-diphenyl-5-mercapto-1,3,4-thiadiazolium hydroxide and its 2-*p*-chlorophenyl analogue.<sup>2</sup> The formation of *anhydro*-1,6-diaryl-3-mercapto-1,2,4,5-tetrazinium hydroxides indicated that a 1,4addition of the dipolarophile occurred. Particularly noteworthy was the complete inertness of the mesoionic 1,3,4thiadiazole system to other dipolarophiles such as dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate and tetracyanoethylene.<sup>3</sup> We now report an extremely ready 1,4-type cycloaddition of *anhydro*-2,3-diphenyl- and 2,3,5-triphenyl-4hydroxythiazolium hydroxide<sup>4</sup> (I; R=H and Ph, respectively) with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate in benzene



at reflux temperatures. Thus from (I; R=H), the hypothetical, primary cycloadduct (II; R=H) underwent

## CHEMICAL COMMUNICATIONS, 1969

spontaneous elimination of sulphur and electron rearrangement to form dimethyl 1,6-diphenyl-2-pyridone-4,5-dicarboxylate (III) [colourless prisms† (70%), m.p. 180-

181°;  $\nu_{max}~{\rm (KBr)}$  1710 (CO\_2Me), 1660 (–CO·N–Ph) cm.-1;  $\lambda_{\max}$  (MeOH) 205 (log  $\epsilon$  4.65), 250 (3.99), 355 nm. (3.82);  $M^+$ , m/e 363 (100%); n.m.r. (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\tau$  6.53 (s, 3H, 4-CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.08 (s, 3H, 5-CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.83 (m, 11H, ArH). Alkaline hydrolysis of this ester gave the corresponding acid as colourless needles, m.p.  $257-258^{\circ}$  [ $\nu_{max}$  (KBr) 3320 (OH), 1700, 1625 (CO) cm.<sup>-1</sup>].

However, from (I; R = Ph) and the dipolarophile, 2,5-diphenylthiophen-3,4-dicarboxylate (IV)dimethyl R = Ph [colourless needles (90%), m.p. 167-168° (lit.<sup>5</sup> 166—167.5°);  $\nu_{max}$  (KBr) 1710 (CO) cm.<sup>-1</sup>;  $\lambda_{max}$  (MeOH) 206 (log  $\epsilon$  4·49), 240 (4·34), 295 nm. (4.12); n.m.r. (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\tau$  6·22 (s, 6H, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2·50 (m, 10H, ArH); M<sup>+</sup>, m/e 352

(100%)] and phenyl isocyanate were obtained. Alkaline hydrolysis of the ester gave the corresponding acid as colourless needles, m.p. 200° [ $\nu_{max}$  (KBr) 3300 (OH), 1700 (CO) cm.<sup>-1</sup>;  $M^+$ , m/e 324 (5%)] which, on decarboxylation with copper-quinoline, formed 2,5-di-phenylthiophen, m.p. 153-154°, identical with an authentic sample.<sup>6</sup> This cycloaddition is a particularly attractive route to thiophens of type (IV).

These cycloadditions are noteworthy for the ease with which sulphur is eliminated to yield the pyridone and also for the elimination of phenyl isocyanate from the primary cycloadduct. Several canonical forms can account for the reactivity of the mesoionic system, the first one of this type in which a 1,4-type cycloaddition has been observed.<sup>7</sup>

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† Satisfactory analytical data were obtained for all products whose mass spectra were consistent with the assigned structures.

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