grouping, no further decomposition taking place. A similar experience with hexamethylene-tetra-amine when reacting with HCl is obtainable. The formation of only a disodium salt with Na_2CO_3 in the presence of three reactive hydrogen atoms is explained by the existence of only two of these being free in $-SO_2-N-C$ groups, the third one having been isomerised to $-SO_2-N-C$ combination and having been stabilised by chelation.

Further work on the suggested chemical structure is in progress.

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FRIEDEL-CRAFTS ACYLATION OF METHYL β-RESORCYLATE : A NEW AND CONVENIENT SYNTHESIS OF 2-ACETYLRESORCINOL

BY Friedel-Crafts acetylation of methyl β-resorcylate with acetic anhydride Desai, *et al.*[1] obtained methyl 2, 4-dihydroxy-5-acetylbenzoate (I) but no γ-isomer, methyl 2, 4-dihydroxy-3-acetylbenzoate (II). It is now found however, that besides (I) and a small quantity of methyl 2, 4-dihydroxy-3, 5-diacetylbenzoate, (III) is formed in considerable quantities (*Ca* 25% yield). The structure of (II) is established by hydrolysis and decarboxylation to 2-acetylresorcinol: it is quantitatively converted directly to the latter by heating with 10% sodium hydroxide solution on steam-bath for three hours. Similarly 2-propionylresorcinol could be obtained and the reaction thus appears capable of providing convenient syntheses of 2-acylresorcinols which are generally obtained indirectly by the method of Limaye,[2] by the hydrolysis of 7-hydroxy-4-methyl-8-acyl-coumarins.

This formation of (II) is however only to be expected for methyl β-resorcylate gives 3-formyl derivative in the Ga mann reaction according to Shah Laiwalla[3] and the 5-hydroxy-coun derivative as the main product in Pechmann reaction as shown by Se Shah and Shah.[4] Extension of this rea for the syntheses of 2-acylresorcinols progress and results will shortly be lished elsewhere.

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OCCURRENCE OF FUNGI INSID RICE KERNELS

THE study on the nature of action of fungicides "Spergon" and "Phygon preventing loss of viability of paddy s in storage Ramiah and Padmanabl (1949) has revealed that even appare healthy seeds contain an internally b fungus, which may be cultured artifici The fungus that occurred most was *choconis padwickii* Ganguly (Padwick Ganguly,[2] 1945; Ganguly,[3] 1946). method employed in culturing the s and the results obtained are given belo

Four ounces of seeds of five local ty T. 90, T. 412, T. 812, T. 1145, and T. 1 were kept in equilibrium with six diffe relative humidities in desiccators with phuric acid dilutions in the beginnin May, 1949. During the first week of , and the third week of July samples v drawn from the desiccators and testec the presence of surface-borne and interi borne fungi. No distinction was r between the apparently healthy seeds the small percentage of visibly spotted c

The seeds were made to stand for 1 l in 10 c.c. of sterile water in test-tubes washed in a single change of sterile wa They were then surface sterilised in r curic chloride solution (one minute 1:1000), washed again in four change sterile water and sown in thin oat-r agar plates. A week after sowing, obse tion was taken on germination and fungus, if any, growing from the seed, identified.