*Isomerization of Luciculine**

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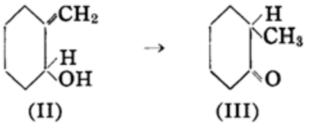
Lucidusculine (I) ($C_{24}H_{35}O_4N$) is one of the aconite alkaloids; upon hydrolysis it gives a trihydric amino alcohol, luciculine (II) ($C_{22}H_{33}O_3N \cdot H_2O$)¹⁾. In contact with palladium-carbon in the presence of hydrogen and methanol, compound II was found to isomerize to a ketone base, isoluciculine (III), m. p. 131~136C°, λ_{max} in MeOH 302 mμ, logε1.4 (*Anal.* Found: C, 71.22; H, 9.33; N, 332; H_2O, 2.33. Calcd. for $C_{22}H_{33}O_3N \cdot {}^1/_2H_2O$: C, 71.71; H, 9.30; N, 3.80; H_2O, 2.44%). Compound III showed a band at 5.82 μ in the infared spectrum, and was considered therefore to be a cyclic six-membered ketone. Since it was shown previously that a terminal methylene group exists in compound II[1], this isomerization seems to proceed similarly to that of Shimoburo base I[2], hypognavine[3] or napellonine[4,**] as follows:



On the basis of these observations, the presence of an allyl alcohol moiety in the structure of compound II may be claimed.

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* This paper constitutes a part of a series entitled "The Aconite Alkaloids" by H. Suginome.

1) H. Suginome, T. Amiya and T. Shima, in preparation.

2) T. Sugasawa, *Pharm. Bull. Japan*, **4**, 6 (1956).

3) S. Sakai, ibid., **5**, 1 (1957).

4) K. Wiesner, Z. Valenta, J. F. King, R. K. Maudgal, L. G. Hamber and Shô Itô, *Chem. and Ind.*, **1957**, 173.

** It has been shown that napellonine is identical with Shimoburo base I[5].

5) K. Wiesner, Shô Itô and Z. Valenta, *Exper.*, **14**, 167 (1958).