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THE ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS

Director and Secretary: J. DAVIDSON PRATT, C.B.E., M.A., B.Sc., M.I.Chem.E., F.R.I.C. Manager: ALLAN J. HOLDEN, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Telephone: COVENT GARDEN 2263 (4 LINES)

Telegram: MANUFACTURERS, LONDON

CECIL CHAMBERS - 86 STRAND
LONDON, W.C.2

FILE:
BIOCHEMICAL RESEARCH
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TOLUIDINE, OETHO

11th October, 1954

B.10727/P/32
JC/VL

K.H.F. OCT 29 1954

Dear Dr. Mates,

OCT 29 1954 L.M.

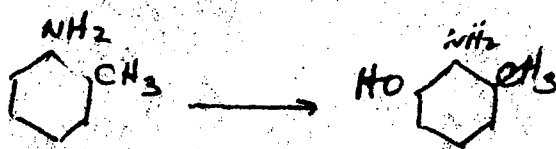
A. B. C. M. Papilloma Research Scheme

Mr. Davidson Pratt has asked me to follow up his letter - B.10238/P/32 of 29th September, 1954, by quoting some additional comments which we have received on your letter of 8th September. These are given below:

"You will realise, of course, that we have no experience with the manufacture of auramine, and that our interest in magenta is historical only. However, we do feel that we may be able to make some useful comments on the points raised by Dr. Mates. The early processes for magenta did not use stannic chloride but the oxidising agent was o-nitrotoluene. It is possible, of course, as suggested by Dr. Mates, that this could be reduced to a hydrazo compound and could finally finish up as o-tolidine. We feel, however, that a more likely explanation lies in the use in the early days of isolated o-toluidine hydrochloride. This was handled as a hot crystalline solid, and it is possible that severe contamination could have occurred. In this connection, a paper by Walpole, Williams and Roberts in the British Journal of Industrial Medicine, Vol. 9, page 255, 1952, makes reference to the metabolism of o-toluidine leading to o-amino-m-cresol. It is suggested in this paper that carcinogenic properties are associated with the o-aminophenol structure, and that o-toluidine might be expected to be a carcinogen."

Yours faithfully,
Joan Coust
Intelligence Officer.

Dr. Edward B. Mates, M.D.,
National Aniline Division,
Allied Chemical & Dye Corporation,
P. O. Box 975,
Buffalo 5, N.Y.
U.S.A.



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