

eral formula R_4XCOOH in which X is a halide and preferably chlorine and R_4 is a hydrocarbon group of 1-4 carbon atoms.

In the production of compounds of Formula II there may be employed any of the organic acids containing a single $COOH$ group or any of the available anhydrides of said acids and by the term monocarboxylic organic acid as used herein, I mean to include both the acid and any of the anhydrides thereof which I regard as the equivalent of the acid. These acids may be: the aliphatic open chain saturated or unsaturated fatty acids as well as said fatty acids containing hydroxy or keto groups and/or other substitutes, such as aryl radicals, as for example, acids of the type of Twitchell fatty acids; cycloaliphatic carboxylic acids preferably containing no more than four condensed nuclei and examples of which are hexahydrobenzoic, resinic, and naphthenic acids; heterocyclic aliphatic carboxylic acids, such as the various pyridine carboxylic acids.

The carboxylic acids employed are those having at least ten carbon atoms. The acids which I employ may be derived from a number of different sources. Among some of them are the acid components chosen from oil of fats of animal, marine or vegetable origin and these include: the acids of cocoonut, palm kernel and palm oil which contain fatty acids having at least eleven carbon atoms and also from soy bean, linseed, olive, rapeseed, cottonseed, peanut and castor oil which contain large proportions of unsaturated hydroxy fatty acids and also the acids derived from tallow, fish and seal oils, whale or shark oils and the hydrogenated acids from these sources. Moreover, the synthetic high molecular weight fatty acids obtained by the oxidation of paraffin wax and similar high molecular weight hydrocarbons by means of gaseous oxidizing agents may be employed. In addition the acid may be one of the resinic acids such as abietic acid or the naphthenic acids and long chain fatty acids having an aromatic hydrocarbon radicle connected directly with the aliphatic chain (Twitchell fatty acids) are obtainable from oleic, ricinoleic, linoleic and similar unsaturated fatty acids. Instead of employing mixture of acids from oil, fats and resins, single acids may be used, for example: pimelic, heptylic, caprylic, sebacic, undecylic, lauric, palmitic, stearic, behenic, arachic, cerotic, oleic, erucic, linoleic, linolenic, ricinoleic and hydroxystearic acids.

The first reaction may be carried out by placing into a reaction vessel one mole of one of said monocarboxylic acids together with 1.06 moles (6% excess) of diethylene triamine. The mixture of said two compounds in the reaction vessel is gradually heated over a six to eight hour period to a temperature of 190-210° C. while being maintained under reduced pressure conditions of 90-120 millimeters of mercury pressure. In the course of the reaction under said conditions a distillate is continuously withdrawn and collected and measures and consists of the excess triamine and 1.72-2 and usually 1.85-1.9 moles of water. The resulting reaction mass contains a compound measuring more than 80% of theoretical and usually 90 to 95% of theoretical yield and is of general Formula II.

Then 3.15 moles (5% excess) of a monohalo monocarboxylic acid is dissolved in three times its weight of water. The temperature of this solution is lowered to 12-18° C. An aqueous solu-

tion of an alkali metal hydroxide, preferably sodium or potassium hydroxide because of their availability and cost, is prepared by dissolving six moles of the hydroxide in four times its weight of water. This alkali solution is gradually introduced into the solution of the monohalo monocarboxylic acid over a period sufficient so that the temperature of the mass is continuously maintained in said temperature range of 12-18° C. Subsequently, one mole proportion of the condensate of Formula III is dispersed in about twice its weight of water and is maintained at a temperature no greater than 20° C. This dispersion, while maintained at said reduced temperature, is gradually but rapidly introduced into the aforesaid solution prepared with the monohalo monocarboxylic acid and the alkali hydroxide while the temperature thereof is maintained in said temperature range of 12-18° C. Throughout the addition the mass is continuously vigorously agitated. Then the agitation is continued and the mass is gradually heated over a period of 45 to 60 minutes to a temperature of 95 to 98° C. and is maintained within said temperature range while being continuously agitated for a period of one to two hours and until the pH of the mass, which prior to the heating step measured about eleven, is reduced to 8.3-8.5, and does not change any further upon being maintained in said temperature range for an additional twenty minutes. The resultant mass is an aqueous solution containing an alkali metal salt and an organic reaction product consisting essentially of a compound of Formula I and measuring at least 80 and generally 90 to 95% of theoretical yield. If desired the alkali metal salt may be removed from said solution. However, the solution with or without the alkali metal salt therein may be employed for the purposes herein set forth. In addition, the aqueous solution with or without the alkali metal salt removed may be dehydrated to provide in solid form the novel compounds of Formula I.

These novel compounds are compatible with and may be combined with germicidal quaternary ammonium compounds under a variety of pH conditions. For most purposes, however, the pH conditions of aqueous solutions thereof adjusted are between 8-9. Various other compounds such as trisodium phosphate, for example, may be combined therewith. The ratio of the quaternary ammonium compound to my novel compound in such combinations may vary over wide limits, but for most purposes I prefer that the ratio of the latter to the former by weight be in the range of 4-1 to 10-1. A particular combination that I have found to be effective comprised nine parts of one of my novel compounds to one part of a quaternary ammonium germicide by weight with or without 1-2 parts by weight of trisodium phosphate. Among some of the quaternary ammonium compounds that I have employed in said combinations are lauryl pyridinium chloride, lauryl dimethyl benzyl chloride, phenylene ethoxy dimethyl ammonium benzyl chloride.

The following examples are given merely to illustrate the invention and are not to be regarded in a limiting sense, all parts being given by weight unless otherwise specified.

Example I

200 parts of lauric fatty acid (1 mole) and 109 parts of diethylene triamine (1.06 moles, 6% excess) are placed in a reaction vessel and are gradually heated therein to a temperature of

