and the method brought to mind the possibility of carrying out, with this same reagent, not only conversion (B), but the sequence (C) as well, a close parallel to the biosynthetic speculation (A). Accordingly, 2-methyltryptophan was warmed (50°C) for a short time with two equivalents of alkaline hypochlorite (supplied as commercially available Chlorox), under which conditions 4-acetyquinoline (VI)\(^7\) was produced in approximately 20% yield.

We regard this overall transformation as proceeding through the individual stages just suggested (B and C), in which case the discrete, consecutive

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\(^7\) Identified by comparison (I.R., U.V. and m.m.p.'s of picrates and 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrzones) with an authentic specimen.
Exo 3:

\[ \text{Diels-Alder reaction} \rightarrow \text{Conformation} \rightarrow \text{NgOMe, MeOH} \]

DBU

\[ \text{Wagner-Meerwein rearrangement} \]

TFA

\[ \text{HCl} \rightarrow \text{H}_2 \text{O} \]