3,4-Dihydro-1, 2, 3, 4-tetramethyl-pentafulvalene and its Conversion to Ferrocenes

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Reaction of tetramethylcyclopentenone and cyclopentadienyl anion gave the title pentafulvalene derivative. Its deprotonation with sodium or potassium hydride proceeded selectively at one of the methyl groups. The resulting 3, 4-dihydro-1,3,4-trimethyl(2-methylene)pentafulvalenide ion was converted to the corresponding ferrocene which was obtained as two diastereoisomers in the ratio of 1/1.