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(54) **METHOD OF POLYCARBONATE
PREPARATION**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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Polycarbonates containing low or undetectable levels of Fries rearrangement product may be prepared by the melt reaction of a dihydroxy aromatic compound such as bisphenol A with an ester-substituted diaryl carbonate such as the diaryl carbonate of methyl salicylate, bis-methyl salicyl carbonate. Low levels of Fries product are obtained as the combined result of a highly effective catalyst system which suppresses the Fries reaction and the use of lower melt polymerization temperatures relative to temperatures required for the analogous polymerization reaction using diphenyl carbonate.