

invitation of the British Federation of University Women, during July 27–August 1. Crosby Hall, which was requisitioned during the War, is re-opening as an international hall of residence and club for university women on August 6, immediately after the Council meeting. A large number of countries will be represented at the Council, including the Argentine, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Finland, France, India, Ireland, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. At a discussion meeting: "Bridging the Gap—1940 to 1945" on Sunday, July 28, three speakers will describe the experiences of university women during the War in the occupied, non-occupied and neutral countries respectively; and on July 30, Prof. Lise Meitner will give a public lecture on "Atoms and Atomic Energy" at Chatham House. The International Federation of University Women, which was founded in 1919 to promote understanding and friendship between university women of different nationalities, and thus to develop co-operation between their countries, had in 1939 a membership through its affiliated associations of nearly 80,000; there has been a considerable growth in membership during the war years, the estimated total being now about 94,000. The greatest proportionate increase has been recorded in the associations of the liberated countries. Since the liberation, several schemes have been launched by different national associations, including the British Federation, to help university women in the liberated countries to recuperate after the strain of enemy occupation, and to resume their professional careers and intellectual life.

D.D.T. <sup>5k</sup>

1.1-bis-(4 chlorophenyl)-2.2.2-trichloroethane, produced in Switzerland in the early years of the War, was the first synthetic contact insecticide which could rival in efficiency and cost the vegetable products pyrethrum and derris. Information about it reached Great Britain and the United States at a time when the world shortage of pyrethrum, combined with increasing demands from the armies of the United Nations, was causing great anxiety among those responsible for military hygiene. On both sides of the Atlantic official committees of experts were convened to advise and to co-ordinate research. In Great Britain most of these activities were centred in the Insecticides Development Panel of the Ministry of Production under the chairmanship of Sir Ian Heilbron. The work of these committees largely resolved itself into the development of applications of D.D.T. for the special purposes of controlling mosquitoes, flies, lice and other insects of military importance. The results of investigations and trials were circulated in numerous reports produced in Britain, the Dominions and the United States, and freely interchanged. Many of the reports were at the time marked 'Secret' or 'Confidential' and the information appearing in the popular press was apt to be highly coloured or inaccurate. Some of these reports have since been published; but the main results, both published and unpublished, have now been brought together in the form of a pamphlet issued by the Ministry of Supply, entitled "Some Properties and Applications of D.D.T." (London: H.M. Stationery Office. 6d. net). This pamphlet includes a brief summary of some of the agricultural and horticultural uses of D.D.T.

## Research on Rodent Control

THE Department of Animal Health of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, has accepted the offer of the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare to endow a research studentship for work in rodent ecology, the object of such work being the search for humane and efficient methods of controlling rodent populations; and Miss Winifred Maisie Phillips will be the first holder of the studentship. The grant (£180 for the research student and up to £170 for travelling and subsistence expenses) has been made for one year in the first instance, but it is understood that the Federation is prepared to continue the support for up to three years should the results justify this. It is anticipated that the greater part of the field experimentation will be carried out on territory covered by the West Wales Field Society, to which the Federation has made an initial grant of £150 for the current year. The programme of work now envisaged falls into three parts: (a) A survey of the mammalian fauna of the islands visited by the West Wales Field Society and of selected mainland territory. The survey of the islands was suggested by Mr. Charles Elton and the estimates made should form the basis of future studies upon the effects of certain treatments. (b) Research on humane poisons for rats. This work follows from the Conference held at Oxford on May 10, 1945, between members of the staff of the Bureau of Animal Population and nominees of the Federation. (c) The control of rabbits with special reference to surface-dwelling rabbits in woodlands. Preliminary ecological work upon the rabbit was carried out before the War at the Bureau of Animal Population, Oxford, by Mr. H. N. Southern, with the aid of a grant from the Federation. The special study of surface-dwelling rabbits in woodlands was also suggested by Mr. Elton, and it is expected that suitable territory for investigation will be found on farms operated by, or associated with, the Department of Animal Health of University College, Aberystwyth.

## The Carlsberg Laboratory

WE are pleased to announce the resumption of the receipt of the *Comptes Rendus* of the Carlsberg Laboratory, published in Copenhagen. The Chemical Section, covering the period 1940–45, comprises twenty-eight parts, and it is not possible to summarize such a large amount of material. It is hoped, however, to deal with some of the papers in due course. The following may be mentioned: K. Linderstrøm-Lang and C. F. Jacobsen on the number of peptide bonds in insulin (23, No. 13), and on the properties of 2-methyl-thiazoline and their relation to the protein problem (23, No. 20); A. Søbørg Ohlsen on the histochemistry of the stomach (23, No. 21); A. Grønwall on the solubility of lactoglobulin (24, Nos. 8–11); K. Linderstrøm-Lang on solutions of diffusion equations (24, No. 13); H. Holter and K. Linderstrøm-Lang on the theory of the Cartesian diver (24, Nos. 17–18) and E. Zeuthen on a Cartesian diver micro-respirometer (24, No. 19).

## Commonwealth Fund Fellowships Awards

The Fellowships offered by the Commonwealth Fund of New York to British graduates for tenure in American universities have now been resumed after interruption by the War, and the Committee of Award has made the following appointments for