

LEND-LEASE STATISTICS.

The following announcement has been made regarding the lend-lease shipments from America:-

"Lend-lease food is helping to win the war - food for the Russian Army's smashing blows at the retreating Nazis - food for the British Eighth Army driving into Tunis - food for the munitions workers back in England. We sent a lot of lend-lease food abroad in 1942. To sustain the United Nations' offensives of 1943 we shall need to send more this year - about twice as much. The food we sent last year - and the food we are sending now - is important in terms of battles won. Yet it has been relatively small in terms of our total supply of food, smaller than many people may have believed. Of the five meats soon to be rationed - beef, veal, lamb, mutton and pork - we exported over a billion pounds under lend-lease. That is a lot of meat, but it was only 5 per cent of our supply. Out of every 20 pounds of meat, American civilians and U.S. armed forces took 19 pounds. One pound went to our Allies.

"We lend-leased a lot of cheese and dried and evaporated milk. It took over two billion quarts of fluid milk to make these and other milk products exported, but the grand total was less than four per cent of our total fluid milk supply. We kept for our own needs over nine and a half quarts out of every ten quarts of milk we produced, and we produced over 58 billion quarts in all.

"Among the milk products, lend-lease took a large share of cheese - almost one quarter of each pound the United States produced was exported to our Allies. Exports of butter, however, were less than one per cent of our total supply. Out of every six pounds of butter less than one ounce went under lend-lease, what butter we sent went to the Russian Army. We are sending more this year. It took four-and-half million dozen eggs to make the egg powder that was exported. This was one egg out of every ten that went to the markets. Egg production increased enough to take care of these shipments and still leave more than before our Americans to eat.

"We shipped seven per cent of our canned and frozen fish, but only one per cent of our canned vegetables, fruits and fruit juices. Ninety-nine out of every one hundred cans produced in this country went to the U.S. armed forces and to American civilians. As a matter of fact, the total demand for American food is greater than the supply because of the heavy need for food for the United States armed forces, as well as for our fighting Allies, and American civilians are able to, and want to, buy more food than ever before."