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RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD AND GROCERIES - OCTOBER, 1937

Particulars concerning variations in the retail prices of Food and Groceries (41 commodities) in 30 principal cities and towns in Australia for the month of October, 1937, have been made available by the Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson).

BASE PERIOD: The index numbers in the attached table are computed to the base 1923-27 = 1000.

Compared with the previous month of September, 1937, the price levels of the 30 Cities and Towns and the Six Capitals rose 0.3%. Increases were recorded in the weighted average of Five Towns of the following States - Queensland, 1.1%; New South Wales, 1.0%; Tasmania, 0.6%. Decreases were recorded in South Australia, 1.2%; Western Australia, 0.4%; Victoria, 0.1%.

The items for which the greatest price variations were recorded in October as compared with the previous month, were as follows:-

Groceries. Tea prices rose in Queensland. Potato prices increased in New South Wales and Tasmania and decreased in Victoria and South Australia.

Dairy Produce. Cheese prices rose in all States except South Australia and Western Australia. Egg prices increased in New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania and decreased in South Australia and Western Australia. Bacon prices rose in all States except South Australia where a reduction was recorded.

Meat. Meat prices increased in New South Wales and Queensland, decreased in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia but were practically stationary in Tasmania.

Compared with the month of October, 1936, the following percentage increases are disclosed by the Indexes - 30 Cities and Towns, 2.8%; Six Capitals, 3.0%; South Australia, 5.2%; Queensland, 3.5%; Victoria, 3.0%; New South Wales, 2.5%; Tasmania, 2.1%; Western Australia, 0.9%.

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ROLAND WILSON

Commonwealth Statistician

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,

Canberra, F.C.T. 25th November, 1937.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES - FOOD AND GROCERIES

OCTOBER, 1937

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS FOR EACH OF THE 30 PRINCIPAL CITIES AND TOWNS IN AUSTRALIA

(Base: Weighted Average Six Capitals, 1923-27 = 1000)

City or Town	1936			1937		
	August	Sep- tember	October	August	Sep- tember	October
<u>NEW SOUTH WALES</u>						
Sydney ..	846	855	861	858	874	884
Newcastle ..	859	868	870	879	878	878
Broken Hill ..	934	963	972	995	1013	1009
Goulburn ..	839	848	851	882	898	885
Bathurst ..	846	839	834	852	853	852
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	849	858	864	862	877	886
<u>VICTORIA</u>						
Melbourne ..	837	835	834	842	862	861
Ballarat ..	857	852	870	862	871	869
Bendigo ..	837	836	848	848	859	859
Geelong ..	827	837	838	838	860	857
Warrnambool ..	825	829	835	837	839	837
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	837	836	836	843	862	861
<u>QUEENSLAND</u>						
Brisbane ..	779	783	805	820	820	831
Toowoomba ..	750	761	774	779	777	786
Rockhampton ..	826	835	849	854	851	854
Townsville ..	(858)a	(864)a	(879)a	893	897	900
Bundaberg ..	(760)b	(769)b	(772)b	871	864	864
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	782	787	807	826	826	835
<u>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</u>						
Adelaide ..	817	812	795	837	850	839
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo	895	888	881	908	893	887
Port Pirie ..	889	887	883	916	920	921
Mount Gambier ..	822	821	807	848	850	849
Peterborough ..	872	867	856	874	873	881
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	822	818	802	843	854	844
<u>WESTERN AUSTRALIA</u>						
Perth, Fremantle	887	878	864	876	876	872
Kalgoorlie, Boulder	1020	1020	1003	1010	1011	1008
Northam ..	941	929	909	934	928	921
Bunbury ..	897	889	869	896	884	884
Geraldton ..	953	953	949	970	954	934
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	899	891	877	890	889	885
<u>TASMANIA</u>						
Hobart ..	846	863	871	858	880	883
Launceston ..	804	822	837	859	853	866
Burnie ..	852	865	892	898	907	902
Devonport ..	818	880	875	900	900	898
Queenstown ..	889	895	907	928	929	923
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	834	852	862	864	875	880
Wtd. Aver. - 30 Towns	839	842	844	852	865	868
Wtd. Aver. - 6 Capitals	837	839	841	848	863	866
<u>SPECIAL TOWNS (NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES)</u>						
Lithgow (N.) ..	838	818	798	878	874	868
Yallourn (V.) ..	868	860	873	864	877	890
Charters Towers (Q.)	(858)c	(864)c	(879)c	878	868	879
Warwick (Q.) ..	(760)c	(769)c	(772)c	785	785	786
Port Augusta (S.)	928	923	913	941	948	942
Zeehan (T.) ..	936	950	970	989	990	980
Canberra (F.C.T.)	890	895	902	947	954	962
Charters Towers.	b. Warwick.					
	c. Included in Weighted Average for Q'ld.					

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