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MORNING PAPERS .. SATURDAY, 23rd DECEMBER, 1939
EVENING PAPERS .. SATURDAY, 23rd DECEMBER, 1939

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD AND GROCERIES: NOVEMBER, 1939.

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, 1939, 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 - Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities 1923-27 = 1000.

Compared with the previous month of October, the price levels of the 30 Cities and Towns as a whole fell by 0.5%, and the Six Capitals by 0.4%. Decreases were recorded in the weighted averages of the five towns for Western Australia (3.0%), South Australia (2.0%), Queensland (1.9%) and New South Wales (0.7%), while increases were recorded in Victoria (1.3%) and Tasmania (0.3%).

Items for which the greatest price variations were recorded in November, 1939, compared with the previous month, were as follows:-

Groceries. Potato prices fell in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, but rose in Victoria and Tasmania. Onion prices declined in all States. Salmon prices rose in New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia. Sugar prices declined in Tasmania.

Dairy Produce. Bacon prices increased in New South Wales. Egg prices rose in Victoria and Western Australia.

Meat. Meat prices rose slightly in New South Wales and Queensland, remained practically unchanged in Victoria and Tasmania, and showed a decline in South Australia and Western Australia.

Compared with the month of November, 1938, increases were recorded by the index numbers for 30 Cities and Towns (4.5%), Six Capitals (4.7%), Victoria (7.0%), Tasmania (4.1%), New South Wales (3.8%), Queensland (3.5%), Western Australia (3.3%) and South Australia (3.0%).

This document is published by the Commonwealth Statistician, and contains statistics or abstracts thereof compiled and tabulated by the Commonwealth Statistician pursuant to the Census and Statistics Act, 1905-1938.

ROLAND WILSON

Commonwealth Statistician.

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,

Canberra, A.C.T. 22nd December, 1939.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES - FOOD AND GROCERIES.

NOVEMBER, 1939.

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

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

City or Town	1938			1939		
	Sep-tember	Oc-tober	No-vember	Sep-tember	Oc-tober	No-vember
NEW SOUTH WALES -						
Sydney	924	918	909	934	949	943
Newcastle	945	953	940	962	989	969
Broken Hill	1102	1114	1128	1065	1086	1079
Goulburn	945	951	952	994	1003	996
Bathurst	907	906	914	937	962	947
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns:	929	925	916	940	955	948
VICTORIA -						
Melbourne	905	901	896	930	947	958
Ballarat	896	885	886	937	944	963
Bendigo	911	909	904	914	933	952
Geelong	913	917	914	941	946	973
Warrnambool	913	916	910	955	970	974
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns:	905	901	896	930	947	959
QUEENSLAND -						
Brisbane	846	839	824	860	873	854
Toowoomba	800	791	781	814	823	815
Rockhampton	875	877	863	893	906	865
Townsville	934	939	933	953	955	948
Bundaberg	884	882	875	906	909	904
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns:	852	847	833	867	879	862
SOUTH AUSTRALIA -						
Adelaide	865	862	860	893	902	883
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo	908	914	915	980	990	981
Port Pirie	940	949	950	996	999	986
Mount Gambier	881	883	907	926	948	976
Peterborough	902	905	910	984	1000	984
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns:	869	867	866	900	910	892
WESTERN AUSTRALIA -						
Perth, Fremantle	909	907	888	941	947	919
Kalgoorlie, Boulder	1067	1063	1056	1100	1110	1076
Northam	940	939	931	978	980	954
Bunbury	941	942	931	974	983	961
Geraldton	931	928	901	948	956	926
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns:	922	920	902	954	961	932
TASMANIA -						
Hobart	877	878	891	920	942	944
Launceston	896	898	908	909	918	921
Burnie	919	926	923	944	953	961
Devonport	909	911	936	931	935	938
Queenstown	981	993	1000	1011	1018	1018
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns:	890	892	903	921	937	940
Wtd. Average - 30 Towns:	906	902	895	925	940	935
Wtd. Average - 6 Capitals:	902	898	890	922	936	932
SPECIAL TOWNS (NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES).						
Lithgow (N.S.W.)	951	963	961	956	991	956
Yallourn (V.)	928	938	948	984	990	1007
Charters Towers (Q.)	933	935	933	956	958	956
Warwick (Q.)	834	834	822	856	868	858
Port Augusta (S.A.)	943	947	949	995	1006	996
Rosebery (T.)	-	-	-	1065	1070	1053
Canberra (A.C.T.)	1025	1032	1026	1048	1055	1040

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