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MORNING PAPERS .. THURSDAY, 23rd DECEMBER, 1937.
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RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD AND GROCERIES - NOVEMBER, 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 November, 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 - Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities 1923-27 = 1000.

Compared with the previous month of October, 1937, the price levels of the 30 cities and towns fell 0.7%, and the six capitals 0.8%. Decreases were recorded in the weighted averages of five towns of the following States - Victoria, 1.4%; New South Wales, 0.7%; South Australia, 0.7%; Western Australia, 0.7%. Increases were recorded in Queensland, 0.8%; Tasmania, 0.6%.

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

Groceries: Potato prices increased in Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania, but fell in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia.

Dairy Produce: Egg prices rose in New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania but decreased in Victoria and Western Australia. Bacon prices fell in South Australia.

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

Compared with the month of November, 1936, the following percentage increases are disclosed by the index-numbers - 30 Cities and Towns, 1.8%; Six Capitals, 1.9%; South Australia, 3.3%; Queensland, 2.3%; Tasmania, 2.2%; New South Wales, 1.7%; Victoria, 1.7%; Western Australia, 0.3%.

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RETAIL PRICE INDEXES - FOOD AND GROCERIES
NOVEMBER, 1937

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	1936			1937		
	Sep- tember	October	No- vember	Sep- tember	October	No- vember
<u>NEW SOUTH WALES</u>						
Sydney ..	855	861	863	874	884	877
Newcastle ..	868	870	869	878	878	882
Broken Hill ..	963	972	977	1013	1009	1036
Goulburn ..	848	851	855	898	885	888
Bathurst ..	839	834	838	853	852	861
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	858	864	865	877	886	880
<u>VICTORIA</u>						
Melbourne ..	835	834	833	862	861	848
Ballarat ..	852	870	872	871	869	860
Bendigo ..	836	848	856	859	859	863
Geelong ..	837	838	833	860	857	857
Warrnambool ..	829	835	844	839	837	834
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	836	836	835	862	861	849
<u>QUEENSLAND</u>						
Brisbane ..	783	805	820	820	831	835
Toowoomba ..	761	774	800	777	786	789
Rockhampton ..	835	849	864	851	854	877
Townsville ..	(864)a	(879)a	(889)a	897	900	921
Bundaberg ..	(769)b	(772)b	(820)b	864	864	873
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	787	807	823	826	835	842
<u>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</u>						
Adelaide ..	812	795	804	850	839	833
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo ..	888	881	890	893	887	897
Port Pirie ..	887	883	896	920	921	915
Mount Gambier ..	821	807	815	850	849	847
Peterborough ..	867	856	851	873	881	884
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	818	802	811	854	844	838
<u>WESTERN AUSTRALIA</u>						
Perth, Fremantle ..	878	864	863	876	872	866
Kalgoorlie, Boulder ..	1020	1003	1006	1011	1008	1002
Northam ..	929	909	910	928	921	905
Bunbury ..	889	869	873	884	884	896
Geraldton ..	953	949	960	954	934	924
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	891	877	876	889	885	879
<u>TASMANIA</u>						
Hobart ..	863	871	874	880	883	889
Launceston ..	822	837	844	853	866	870
Burnie ..	865	892	883	907	902	906
Devonport ..	880	875	873	900	898	895
Queenstown ..	895	907	920	929	923	922
Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns	852	862	866	875	880	885
Wtd. Aver. - 30 Towns	842	844	847	865	863	862
Wtd. Aver. - 6 Capitals	839	841	843	863	866	859
<u>SPECIAL TOWNS (NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES)</u>						
Lithgow (N.) ..	818	798	809	874	873	873
Yallourn (V.) ..	860	873	873	877	870	893
Charters Towers (Q.) ..	(864)c	(879)c	(889)c	868	879	887
Warwick (Q.) ..	(769)c	(772)c	(820)c	785	780	795
Port Augusta (S.) ..	923	913	926	948	942	945
Zeehan (T.) ..	950	970	981	990	980	983
Canberra (F.C.T.) ..	895	902	949	954	962	965

a. Charters Towers. b. Warwick. c. Included in Weighted Average for Qld.
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22nd December, 1937