"1894 Christmas Prices" Carroll County Times article for 18 December 1994 by Jay A. Graybeal

A century ago local merchants enticed local shoppers with special newspaper advertising. Schneeberger's Trade Palace, 33 East Main St., Westminster, was one of the largest advertisers in the December 15, 1894 issue of the Democratic Advocate. Their ad carried a description of Victorian era goods with prices.

Great Xmas Offerings

Our Store is filled from top to bottom with HOLIDAY GOODS. These consist of serviceable, wearables and pleasurables - anything that would please a wife, a mother, a sister or a brother is here in all its glory. Such beautiful goods as you expect of the Trade Palace, are here in wonderful magnitude, and at such prices as will surprise even those who know the powerful bargain-providing ability of Schneeberger's Trade Palace - prices that will prove actual Christmas gifts to every purchaser; goods that will wear so long that they will be a perpetual reminder to the recipient of the bounteous nature of the donor.

INFANTS CAPS
It's worth while having babies to put Caps on. All Pure Silk Infant's caps, silk embroidered, worth 50¢ each, a bargain at
FASCINATORS Ladies' Fascinators, of Zephyr and Worsted, black, blue, pink, white and cardinal, worth 75¢; a beautiful Xmas gift, only
only
SUSPENDERS Fine Silk-faced Men's Suspenders, in pink, blue, orange and cardinal, best made, worth 75¢, a great bargain at25¢ Boys Neverbreak Suspenders made for wear, a good thing as a Christmas gift 12 1/2¢
NEW 100 Stamp Plates, which anybody can decorate themselves, at 15¢ TABLE LINEN AND NAPKINS 75¢ best Linen at 50¢
\$1.00 German Table Linen, handsome design, now only 65¢ Table Napkins at 75¢ per doz.
LADIES' UNDERWEAR Ladies' Fine Ribbed Vests, worth 25¢,
now18¢

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Ladies' Merino Vests, worth 75¢,
now
8x8 Satin Pincushions, in pink, blue, yellow, orange, green and cardinal 25¢ 9x9 Pincushions, same colors as above
BLANKETS
10-4 White Blankets, worth \$1.00 a pair,
now only65¢ 10-4 White Heavy Blankets,
worth \$2.00 go at
DRAPERIES
Nottingham Lace Curtains in Brussels effects, full size, worth \$1.75,
a great bargain at
A better grade Lace Curtain, 3 1/2 yds long 50 inch wide, regular price \$3.00,
a great value at \$1.69 Chenille Portieres, colors red, blue and peach, with poles and fixtures, worth \$5.00,
now only \$2.98 A large stock of Silkolines, Cretones and Robe Prints at greatly reduced price.
TOILET SOAPS AND PERFUMERY 100 boxes best Glycerine Buttermilk Soap at 15¢ a box or per piece 5¢ Oat Meal Soap
HOLIDAY SUGGESTIONS
UMBRELLAS 100 fine Umbrellas, worth \$1.00 go at
Men's Laundered White Shirts, linen bosom, sold always at \$1.00,
now only
Outing Shirts from 25, 30, 35, 40 and 50¢ and upwards. TOWELS

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All Linen fringed end Towels, colored borders, 50¢ grade, a Bargain
at
at
CLOAKS Here we can only say that all Ladies, Misses or Children coats will be sold at actual cost price. Such an opportunity has never been offered to you before at this time of the season, hence take advantage of it; no need to wait until after the Holidays to buy cheap, you can do it right now.
CARPETS, MATTINGS & OIL CLOTH As we have said before, we say again the balance of our carpet stock must go. If we can't sell it at cost we'll go below it, but every piece must go, so don't wait, make your selection now and save money. DRESS GOODS Here, these Bargains you should never miss.
All Wool Fancy Cloth, 34 in. wide, regular price 40¢, now only 23¢
36 in. All Wool Cloth, worth 50¢, goes at
38 in. All Wood Fancy Cloths, worth 65¢,
go at 35¢
36 in. Cashmeres in black, brown, navy blue, green, tan and garnet, worth 30¢,
now only
KID GLOVES 10 doz. Fine Perfect Kid Gloves in tan, brown and black, with 4 buttons. These are regular \$1.25 Kid Gloves and we sell them per pair at
5 doz. Kid Gloves, in tan and grays, worth 50¢, a large value at 21¢
A full line in Children's, Ladies', and Men's Woolen gloves, suitable for presents.
MEN'S NECKWEAR Fine all Silk Neckties, newest patterns, and worth 50¢; a pleasing present for only,
All silk Windsors, for ladies, men and children, embroidered ends, worth 50¢, only
TOILET BOTTLES 100 cut glass Toilet Bottles, worth 25¢

100 cut glass Toilet Bottles, worth 40¢
DOMESTICS Fruit of the Loom Muslin, sold all ways at 10¢, we shall offer this week
at
5000 yards of best apron Gingham, the regular 8¢ quality
25 pieces of best unbleached Canton Flannels sold regular at 15¢ now 10¢
Best red Flannel, never sold for less than 35¢, now 25¢, a great Bargain
5000 yards Pacific Print Remnants, just arrived from the Mill, at 5¢
1000 yards bleached Muslin Remnants, worth 10¢ a yard, now7¢
1500 yards unbleached Muslin Remnants, worth 8¢, a great value
at 4 3/4¢
A lot of outing Cloth Remnants, worth 12 1/2 per yard, now 8 1/2¢
PHOTO FRAMES 500 Metal Photo Frames, worth 15¢ at
200 Celluloid Photo Frames in pink, green, blue and white, worth 25¢
at
BOOKS 25¢ Story Books for boys and girls, with colored front piece, cut to 13¢
25 different kinds of Big Story Books for boys and girls, 50¢ kind, choice 23¢
HANDKERCHIEFS China Silk Handkerchiefs, embroidered corners, cut to
China Silk Handkerchiefs, beautifully embroidered in colors, worth 25¢, 18¢
Hemstitched Silk Handkerchiefs, embroidered, worth 40¢ cut to 50¢
Plain White China Silk Handkerchiefs, with initial, worth 75¢ cut to
Silk Mufflers in Plain and Colors, worth 75¢, at 50¢
Ladies' Swiss Embroidered Handkerchiefs, worth 12 1/2¢ go at5¢

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Ladies' Fine Embroidered Handkerchiefs go at
Ladies' Fine Embroidered and Scalloped Handkerchiefs, new goods, worth 25¢, go at
Ladies' Fine Initial Handkerchiefs, put 6 in a fancy box, worth \$1.50 per box, go at
GAMES 25 different styles of Games, such as Old Maid, Robinson Crusoe, Snake Game, game of Bull, game of Tossom, Whirlpool, etc etc., worth 25¢,
cut to

25 different kinds of Games, such as Errand Boy, Pussy and the three Mice, Christmas Goose, Cats and Dogs, Babies in the Woods, etc., etc., cut to 19¢ Mr. Schneeberger's ad also included a simple money back guarantee, "We told you before and we tell you once more if anything you buy from us doesn't wear right, come back and get your money."

Photo Caption: This illustration of Santa Claus entering a chimney appeared in a December 15, 1894 advertisement of Waesche's Store in Westminster.