

# Prices from the Past

## Relatives Had a Mission

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME since I've had a dinner with all the extras, for a modest price.

My children and I had such a dinner at the Mission Inn, in Riverside, California, on Christmas Day 1960.

My cousin, Arthur Benton, designed most of the inn and my father, Wilbur Tolerton, also an architect, designed several parts of it. My maternal grandfather, William A. Sharp, did a great deal of the decorating and artwork for the inn, so the Mission means a lot to my family.

I loved wandering the hallways and winding staircases and the catacombs below the inn when I was very young, as well as in later years.

—Virginia S., Caldwell, Idaho

## His Car Was a Dutch-y Treat

AS A SENIOR at the University of Wisconsin, in 1941, I worked as a part-time Fuller Brush man to pay for my meals. I also worked as a part-time janitor at the Presbyterian campus church, the Pres House, to help pay for my room.

I decided I needed a car to deliver my brush orders, so a fellow janitor and I bought a 1928 Dodge sedan for a total cost of \$35.

After a while, he determined that he could not afford a car and I bought out his half of "Dutchy" for \$17.50.

One of my first customers became a regular companion user of my car, even through winter with a nonfunctioning heater.

Several years later, Hazel and I were married, and we celebrated our 62nd anniversary this year.

Dutchy didn't stay with us very long, however. About a year after I bought it, I sold it, again, for \$35.

After all, from that price to begin with, how far down can you go?  
—Ray B., Madison, Wisconsin

### **Try One of Our Specials**

WADDLE'S, a drive-in and restaurant just north of Portland, Oregon, was a popular dining spot for 60 years, until it closed last year.

In a menu from 1945, it states that "All prices have been approved by the O.P.A." That's the Office of Price Administration, a federal agency formed to prevent wartime inflation by creating ceiling prices on many items. The OPA also was in charge of wartime rationing.  
—Ray G., Portland, Oregon