

Mayor

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 tion contract to low qualified bidder, Akerman Refrigerator Co., at \$54,250.
 Plastic pipe contract went to low bidder, Johnson Plastics for \$1,696.20.
 Estimated rink costs discussed Monday are:
 Building \$85,100
 Refrig. Equip. \$4,250
 Plastic pipe 3,400
 Clamps for pipe, etc. 1,500
 Music 1,500
 Lighting 4,500
 Hockey boards 4,000
 Architect fees 9,274
 Parking lot 6,500
 Misc. equipment 4,500
TOTAL \$174,820

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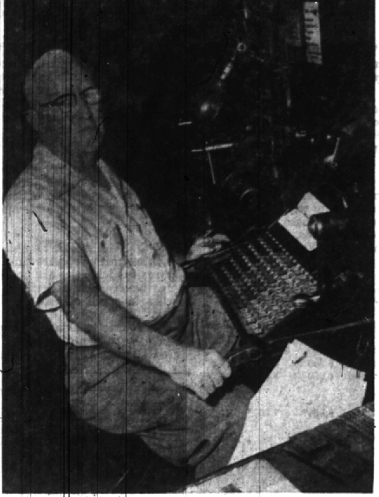
RUBBISH BURNER
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AT HIS linotype machine in The Eccentric room posing, "Mac" Todd sets his last line before retiring Friday after 31 years with The Eccentric, and 48 years in the trade.

'Mac' Retires After 48 Years as a Printer

By BRUNO KEARNS
 A familiar figure, Raymond A. Todd, was missing from one of The Eccentric's linotype machines when the show crew reported for work Monday morning.
 "Mac," as he is nicknamed, set the type for all of The Eccentric's pages for 31 consecutive years, but Friday, September 23, was the day he chose to retire.

"THIS BEING a wonderful trade, and I never regretted getting into it," he said to his fellow workers who presented him with an electric ax and saw after he punched his last time card.
 His leisure retirement plan calls for fishing, golfing, and woodcraft at his home at Briggs Lake near Brighton.
 Mac first got into the trade in a Denver, Colorado, print shop in 1907. He was born and raised in Detroit, but during the panic of 1907, went to Denver where he started as a "copy-holder" for the man who proofread the stories.
 He returned to Detroit and got his printer's card in 1911.
 "I never considered another trade after that," he said, which his 48 years in the printing business verify.
 "MAC was known as a 'two-finger operator.' For him this was natural because he was born with only the middle finger on his left hand.
 "In this business you need your hands," he said, "but God was good enough to give me the one finger which I needed to make a living for my family of seven children."
 During his life in the printing trade, Todd worked for the Free Press, Times, News and the old Detroit Journal.
MOST IMPORTANT story for which he set the type, he recalls, was the sinking of the Titanic on Sept. 12, 1912.
 "I was at the Free Press at the time, and I worked four hours overtime setting the story on the sinking as we got it," he said.
 Sept. 1, 1924, Mac came to The Eccentric.
 "I wanted to work for a small town newspaper," he said, "and even turned down a pay raise to come to Birmingham."
 "I never have been sorry because I've been around to watch The Eccentric grow into the best-looked-in in the country," he concluded.
 Mac, who will be 69 November 23, contemplated retirement several years ago, but "this job was in my blood and I just kept putting it off until now."

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Brothers

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 foster home has not been revealed, arrangements were made for the brothers to direct their mail to The Children's Home.
 It was promised that the mail would be forwarded to the brother. Herb and Gary were happy to obtain a mailing address, with hopes for the future that "we may be able to see him," said Herb.

MEANWHILE Mrs. Edith Blake, attendance office for the Southfield school district, has written to the father of the boys hoping to make some arrangement for a legal guardian.
 Should these arrangements fail, the case would be referred to Probate Judge Arthur E. Moore in Pontiac.

As a result of the story which appeared in The Eccentric last week, numerous calls were received from readers who wanted to know whether Gary had been found, and to help his two brothers here.
PRESENTLY Fred, the younger of the two, a junior in Southfield high school, is searching for quarters.
 It was pointed out, however, by school officials that moving the boy into another school district would further complicate the matter. Fred now is going to Southfield, and the school board there has waived his tuition.
 Fred wants to complete his education in Southfield if possible.

Program

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 He did, however, admit it could be financed merely by including costs in the school district's operating budget.
 But he pointed out that school district taxpayers might resist such an arrangement, primarily because it might expose them to a double recreation program should their particular political unit determine also to go into a recreation program financed through taxes, the remaining part of the city or township.

BOTH CITY and school board members concluded their discussion with the suggestion that the recreation board determine in further detail the duties and responsibilities of a full-time recreation coordinator. This plan then would be reviewed at a subsequent combined meeting.

Recreation Board Chairman Mrs. William Jackson presided.
 Frank Whitney, present recreation head, also is school athletic director. He has continuously stressed the dual role for some time has been more than one person can handle because of the increased growth of both city and school athletic programs.

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 a flurry of inquiries.
 Asked by Henry Feley how inflation would be prevented, he explained the system is based on four pillars, with 400 specialists in the trustee system guiding the world's 165 million.
 Among LWZ members asking questions was Henry S. Booth, who had attended a Human's talk that morning in Detroit.

Car Hits Bicyclist
 Carol Bennett, 11, suffered a fractured skull and broken collar bone when knocked from her bike by an automobile as she rode suddenly from driveway of her home, 550 E. Square Lake road, Bloomfield Hills, last week.

School District Budget Based on State Valuations

Birmingham school district tax levy for 1955-56 will raise more money for school operation although the mill rate will be lower.
 This results from the district's use of state equalized property valuations, which average higher than the county's.

In 1954-55 the county equalized valuation was \$142,400,941. This year by law, the state equalized valuation figure of \$148,103,550 is being used to determine the equalizing factor.
 Operating millage has been dropped from 11.98 to 11.36 and the debt was lowered from 11 to 8.5 mills. These are the millage rates the Birmingham board of education will use for 1955-56.

IN MOST instances, as a result of the change from county to state valuations, the rate will be some- what higher in the cities and lower in the townships.
 At the adjourned board meeting Tuesday night, discussion also con-

cerned purchase of a school site in Westchester village area on the south side of Maple near Cranbrook road.
 Nearly 500 new homes are expected in this area within the next three years.

DISCUSSIONS were held with Ward McCreedy of the Prudential Investment Company, new owner of the property.
 There was no decision reached as to the site's purchase price.
 The board also approved the bids for the Beverly school addition.

The six-room addition and kindergarten will cost \$242,347.15. General Construction low bid came from J. C. Nielsen company for \$177,522.00.

Willetts Widening Hearing Next Week

Aggravated concerning cost of widening Willetts from Woodward to Bates are being made this week prior to a hearing Oct. 3 before the Birmingham commission.
 Front portion of the Bany Flow-er shop would be needed in the 10-foot widening of the eastern portion of the street, engineering plans show.

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Carl Beers Given Lieutenant's Rank

Second Lt. Carl Keith Beers, Force announced last week. With son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Carl Beers, his wife and son, 2, he is at 79 15021 Hillcrest, Birmingham, has Galewood, Fairborn, O., by Wright-rank of first lieutenant, the Air Patterson AF Base, O.

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