

PRINTERS (from Scrapbooks in computer)

"A new printer--The Cotting School for Handicapped Children--will print the January notice as an experiment. The quote price is less than half what is now being charged by Thomas Todd."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 11 December 1984. Min4 p213 item 192)

"It was voted to continue with Cotting School as the printer for notices."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 15 January 1985. Min4 p215 item 195)

Club Services
- Printing

Folder 12 (11)

March
Seventh
1932

Thomas Todd Co.,
14 Beacon Street,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Gentlemen:

I call attention to a typographical error that you made in printing the notice for the meeting of the Harvard Travellers Club on March 15th in the eighth line. The word at is used instead of an.

It seems to me that this is the result of carelessness on your part. I took great pains to write out a rough draft of the notice and sent it to Mr. Orendorff and had him read it back to me and there seems no reason why such an error should occur after that.

While your work has been satisfactory on the whole, I request your cooperation in making it perfect and I will be glad of a reply to this letter.

Very truly yours,

GAL-KAC

George A. Lyon, Sec'y,
P. O. Box 2287, Boston.

PRINTERS

Telephone LAFayette 0601

#3
March 8, 1932

Mr. George A. Lyon
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for calling my attention to the error we made in the last notice of the Travellers Club. I have called the proof-reader's attention to it. She feels badly about it and so do I.

After a mistake is made the natural reaction is to use the utmost care to prevent another one. Our proofreaders are very careful, and have the reputation of doing careful work, for which reason I hope you will not have occasion to speak to us again.

I should be very glad if it were possible to send you a proof, but in this case the copy was received at this office Saturday morning and the notices were delivered the same afternoon, on which day we only work a half day.

Very truly yours,

Thomas Todd

Founded
1811



Established
1864

THOMAS TODD COMPANY • PRINTERS

14 BEACON STREET  ON BEACON HILL  BOSTON 8, MASSACHUSETTS

A Family of Printers for Over One Hundred and Thirty-six Years

TELEPHONE LAFayette 0601

Over Eighty-three Years of Printing Service in Boston

July 8, 1948

Mr. Gardiner H. Fiske
48 Franklin Street
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Fiske:

It is impossible to estimate the cost of the Year Book for the Harvard Travellers Club unless we know how many changes there will be.

In February, 1947, the cost was \$334.40 for 525 copies of 64 pages and cover.

With the increases since that time in the cost of paper, printing, and binding the price would probably be 25 to 30% higher now, but would depend largely upon the number of changes.

Very sincerely yours,

Joseph F. Knig

Thomas Todd Company



Star PRINTING COMPANY

Established 1894

40 BROAD STREET
BOSTON 9, MASS.
Telephone: HUBBARD 2-4625

SOLD TO Harvard Travellers Club

DATE OCT 31 1960

TERMS NET

VIA Messenger

ORDER No. 2843

YOUR ORDER No.

10-19-60

2M

Post Cards-Printed 2 sides $3\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$

26 00

hd 349

Tirrell

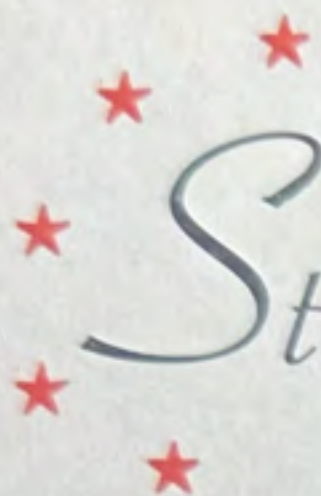
LETTERPRESS ★

PHOTO OFFSET ★

SNAPOUT FORMS ★

ENGRAVING ★

RAISED PRINTING



Star PRINTING COMPANY

Established 1894

40 BROAD STREET
BOSTON 9, MASS.
Telephone: HUBBARD 2-4625

SOLD TO Harvard Travellers Club
Henry S. Howe, Treas.
89 Broad Street, 3rd Floor
Boston 10, Mass.

DATE OCT 31 1960

TERMS NET

VIA Messenger

ORDER No. 2841

YOUR ORDER No.

10-19-60

2500

4¢ Gov. #6 $\frac{3}{4}$ Envelopes

116 00

Printing 2500 Gov. Envelopes

14 00

1M

Reg. WW #6 $\frac{3}{4}$ Envelopes W/return address

14 50

144 50

Vol 349

Tirrell

LETTERPRESS



PHOTO OFFSET



SNAPOUT FORMS



ENGRAVING



RAISED PRINTING

DETACH
HERE

DATE Oct. 4, 1962

THIS HALF
OF THE
INVOICE
IS FOR
YOUR
RECORDS

AMOUNT

800 copies Bill Head

19.35

pd
11-3-52

PAYABLE ONLY AT THE HARVARD TRUST COMPANY, CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.

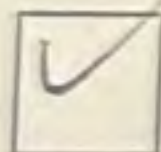
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.



HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRINTING OFFICE

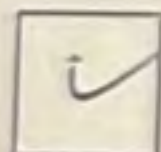
OCT 25 1962

Date



We acknowledge with thanks your order of 10-22
for 275 Notice of Meeting

Please refer to Job # J148 if inquiring about this order



Approximate date proof out to you 10-30

Proofs returned to us within 3 working days will enable us to meet approxi-
mate delivery date below.

sooner if pos.



Proof has been returned to us "Late" and original
delivery schedule of
can no longer be met. Your new delivery appears
at right.

APPROXIMATE
DELIVERY DATE

11-5

(Miss) D. Torto

*Thomas
Todd*

COMPANY • PRINTERS 14 BEACON STREET • BOSTON, MASS. 02108 • LAFAYETTE 3-0601

Terms: net cash

Harvard Travellers Club
c/o Dr. Harrison E. Kennard
246 Dudley Road
Newton, Mass. 02159

Our Invoice # 015

1968

March 29

260 Notices & Report of Nominating Committee , 4pp.

\$47.80

1.43 Sales tax

\$49.23

pd
4-9-68

Thomas
Todd

COMPANY • PRINTERS • 14 BEACON STREET • BOSTON, MASS. 02108 • LAFAYETTE 3-0601

Harvard Travellers Club
C/o Dr. Harrison Kennard
246 Dudley Rd.
Newton Centre, Mass. 02159

Ordered by: Dr. Kennard

Our Invoice # 250

RECEIVED PAYMENT
JULY 19, 1968
THOMAS TODD CO.
EY

1968
June 28 370 Yearbooks - 1968

\$1230.00
85.80 Authors Alterations
<u>\$ 1315.80</u>
39.47 Sales tax
<u>\$ 1355.27</u>

Please receipt
& return

14 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
Telephone: 523-0601



Harvard Travellers Club
c/o Dr. Harrison E. Kennard
246 Dudley Rd.
Newton Center, MA 02159

Thomas Todd Company, Printers

Our order number: 6083, 084
Your order number:
Ordered by: Dr. Kennard

1976			
May 5,	245	Annual Meeting notes	\$78.70
	245	Annual report 1976	<u>155.60</u>
			\$234.30
		Sales Tax	<u>11.72</u>
			\$246.02

pd.
5-10-76

Terms: net cash

14 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
Telephone: 523-0601



Harvard Travellers Club
c/o Dr. Harrison E. Kennard
246 Dudley Rd.
Newton Center, Ma. 02159

Thomas Todd Company, Printers

Our order number: 85477, 85478

Your order number:

Ordered by: Dr. Harrison E. Kennard

pd. 5-8-72

May 1972

240 Annual Meeting Notice
240 Annual Report

3 19.7 ¢
240) 4720
240
2320
2160
1600

47.20
115.50

162.70
State tax *4.89*

167.59

31 48 ¢
240) 115.50
960
1950
1920

Terms: net cash

14 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
Telephone: 523-0601

Thomas Todd Company, Printers



August 13, 1975

Dr. Harrison E. Kennard
246 Dudley Rd.
Newton Centre, Mass. 02159

Dear Dr. Kennard,

We estimate the current price of the Yearbook to be \$2180.00 for 300 copies. The prices that will prevail in May of 1976 are of course unknown at this time. My best guess is that there will be a 10% increase in costs by then. This would make the price about \$2398.00.

The specifications upon which the estimate is based are: 104 pp. and overhang cover, saddlewired, trim size inside $4\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{4}$, cover $4-5/8 \times 7$. Printed on 50 lb. opaque offset and 65 lb. Rhododendron Cover. Inside prints in black ink and the cover prints only on page 1 in red ink.

The following are the stationery prices that you requested:

200 letterheads	\$36.00	= 18 ^d
1100 return cards	59.00	= 59 ^d
250 Important notice	55.00	= 22 ^d
500 return envelopes	38.50	= 7.7 ^d
100 dues bills plus		
50 non-resident	56.00	37 ^d
	<u>294.50</u>	

If there are any questions please call us.

Sincerely,

Thomas Todd

200 | 3600
 53
11159
 5500

250 | 5500
 22
251550
 50
 50

500 | 3850
 77
501385
 350
 350

180 | 5600
 37
151560
 45
 110

dr dr

118 CEDAR STREET

WELLESLEY HILLS

MASS. 02181

THE DAVID RICH CO.

OFFSET PRINTING
XEROX COPYING

TEL. 237-1336

Sold to Harvard Travellers Club
c/o John Field, Sec.Treas.
28 Glenoe Road
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167

Date: SEP 30 1976

OUR ORDER NO. 6851

YOUR ORDER NO.

TERMS: NET 10 DAYS

	XEROX	
8 Sets	NEW ADDRESS STENCILS	11.00
44 @ .25	5 % MASS. TAX	.55
	ADDRESSING & MAILING PREPARATION	20.00
	PICK-UP & DELIVERY	
	U.P.S. POSTAGE P.P. & INS.	
		31.55

CABRAL LETTER SERVICE

99 CHAUNCY STREET, ROOM 704, BOSTON, MASS. 02111
426.4202

INVOICE

SOLD TO: Harvard Travellers Club
c/o Mr. Robert B. Stephenson
P.O. Box 413 - Astor Station
Boston, MA 02123

80-9

DATE Aug. 27, 1980

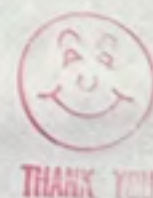
YOUR
ORDER NO.

Address 191 envelopes and list on tape

\$ 6.00

*Paid
A Cabral*

*check
105*



14 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
Telephone: 523-0601



The Harvard Travellers Club
c/o The Boston Fenway Program 5th Floor
236 Huntington Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Thomas Todd Company, Printers

S.V., T.T.

Our order number: 5375,5376,5377,5378,53795380

Your order number:

Ordered by:

Robert B. Stephenson

1980
Aug 18

100 Non Resident Dues with Change	\$81.50
250 Resident Annual Dues with Change	89.10
150 Letterhead with Change	88.60
100 Nomination Blanks with Change	79.00
225 #6 3/4 Return Envelope with Change	74.20
1000 Return Postal with correction	123.20

\$535.60

6.78

sales tax

\$552.38

Terms: net cash

*Should be
26.78*

*paid
8/26/80
CP #100*

80-10

#2 CLASSIC COPY & PRINTING

678 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139
617-868-4140
High Quality color offset, copying,
bindery and stat services

*PD 806
03/17*

INVOICE N° **N° 891542**
PURCHASE ORDER NO.

PLEASE PAY FROM THIS INVOICE
TERMS: NET 15 DAYS
1.5% interest for overdue balances

SOLD TO: Harvard Travellers Club
ADDRESS: Kaltryp Lane - 277-2812
ORDERED BY: _____ PHONE: 876-0533

DATE 03/6 TIME _____
DATE DUE 03/9 TIME _____
RECEIVED BY: MC
☐ CASH ☒ CHECK ☐ CREDIT CARD

No. ORIGINALS	1/S	2/S	QUANTITY		SHEET SIZE	STOCK	AMOUNT	
			PRESS SHEETS	FINISHED PIECES				
<i>1</i>			<i>125</i>	<i>250</i>		<i>very worn</i>	<i>14-</i>	<i>80</i>
						<i>(fold)</i>	<i>4-</i>	<i>75</i>
						<i>(cutting)</i>	<i>2-</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>2</i>		<i>X</i>	<i>13</i>		<i>8-5x11</i>	<i>20th anniversary</i>	<i>1-</i>	<i>43</i>

PRE-PRODUCTION:

☒ DP DESIGN				STRIPPING			TYPESET	
☒ LASERPRINT				NEGS			STATS	
☐ COMP. RENTAL				PLATES			PASTE UP	<i>40.00</i>

POST-PRODUCTION: *Push*

☐ COLLATING			☒ GBC			☒ PADDING		
☐ STAPLING			☒ FOLDING			☒ CUTTING		
☐ VELO			☒ DRILLING					

OTHER:

☐ PMS No.			(file no.)		☐ Copy	SUB-TOTAL	<i>64.18</i>
☐ COLOR WASH					☐ Print	SALES TAX	
			FAX			TOTAL	<i>63.18</i>

DEPOSIT *3.16*
BALANCE DUE *66.34*

Cut
** cut & paste letter fold*
PD. Check # 197
Received by: _____

Abbott

E. D. ABBOTT CO., INC. • 181 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE • BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02115 • PHONE: 267-5550

Harvard Travellers Club
c/o Robert Stephenson

Date: Oct. 19, 1984

Job Ticket No.: 42322

Your Order No.:

250	Notices (2 Sides) (Folded)		
150	" "	Scored	150 00
		5% Sales Tax	7 50 157 50

INVOICE

33540

*Pd
ch 28
2301184
157.50*

RETURN RECEIPT SENT UPON REQUEST

DATE	JOB NO.		ITEMS	AMOUNT
2/19	992	250 Notices (March)	96.86	
		Tax	<u>4.84</u>	
		Total	101.70	
				101.70
		Payment due on receipt of invoice		



827 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116
617/267-9711

NAME HARVARD TRAVELLERS
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

INVOICE

050591

☐ DELIVER ☒ PICK-UP ☐ CALL WHEN READY

PHONE NO. 262-0060

DATE OF ORDER 8/23 DUE DATE 9/3 DAY _____ TIME _____ DATE DELIVERED _____ CUSTOMER P.O. NO. & RESALE NO. _____ ORDER TAKEN BY JAN. ORDERED BY _____ OUR CUSTOMER NO. _____

ITEM	NO. ORIGINALS	QUANTITY	PRINT		SIZE				PAPER								PAPER COLOR		INK COLOR		BINDERY SERVICES							AMOUNT
			ONE SIDE	TWO SIDE	8 1/2 x 11	8 1/2 x 14	11 x 17	OTHER	16# BOND	20# BOND	RA# BOND	60# BOND	CARD STOCK	CUST. STOCK	CARBON LESS	OTHER	WHITE	OTHER	BLACK	OTHER	DRILL	PAD	CUT	COL-LATE	STAPLE	FOLD	BIND	
1		1	☒	☒																								77.50
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS <u>CARDS 4 up YE:CD 1800</u>																												
JOB DESCRIPTION																												

ITEM	NO. ORIGINALS	QUANTITY	PRINT		SIZE				PAPER								PAPER COLOR		INK COLOR		BINDERY SERVICES							AMOUNT
			ONE SIDE	TWO SIDE	8 1/2 x 11	8 1/2 x 14	11 x 17	OTHER	16# BOND	20# BOND	RA# BOND	60# BOND	CARD STOCK	CUST. STOCK	CARBON LESS	OTHER	WHITE	OTHER	BLACK	OTHER	DRILL	PAD	CUT	COL-LATE	STAPLE	FOLD	BIND	
2		250	☒	☒																								23.90
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS																												
JOB DESCRIPTION																												

ITEM	NO. ORIGINALS	QUANTITY	PRINT		SIZE				PAPER								PAPER COLOR		INK COLOR		BINDERY SERVICES							AMOUNT
			ONE SIDE	TWO SIDE	8 1/2 x 11	8 1/2 x 14	11 x 17	OTHER	16# BOND	20# BOND	RA# BOND	60# BOND	CARD STOCK	CUST. STOCK	CARBON LESS	OTHER	WHITE	OTHER	BLACK	OTHER	DRILL	PAD	CUT	COL-LATE	STAPLE	FOLD	BIND	
3																												
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS																												
JOB DESCRIPTION																												

ITEM	NO. ORIGINALS	QUANTITY	PRINT		SIZE				PAPER								PAPER COLOR		INK COLOR		BINDERY SERVICES							AMOUNT
			ONE SIDE	TWO SIDE	8 1/2 x 11	8 1/2 x 14	11 x 17	OTHER	16# BOND	20# BOND	RA# BOND	60# BOND	CARD STOCK	CUST. STOCK	CARBON LESS	OTHER	WHITE	OTHER	BLACK	OTHER	DRILL	PAD	CUT	COL-LATE	STAPLE	FOLD	BIND	
4																												
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS																												
JOB DESCRIPTION																												

NEEDS	POSTED	NEEDS	POSTED	
TYPESETTING	☐	☐	BINDERY	☐
NEGS & PLATES	☐	☐	OTHER	☐

ORIGINAL ARTWORK RETURNED TO CUSTOMER
ARTWORK _____
YES ☐ NO ☐ NEGS & PLATES
YES ☐ NO ☐
FILED IN _____

OTHER SERVICES

SUB-TOTAL 112.40

SALES TAX 5.62

TOTAL 118.02

DEPOSIT

BALANCE DUE

Sir Speedy Centers' prices are calculated on a "cash with order" basis. Therefore, all orders are on 'COD' cash on delivery basis, unless credit is already established by an acknowledged credit application. Terms on established credit accounts: Net on presentation. Balances unpaid after 30 days from date of invoice are subject to a service charge of 1 1/2 % per month, or maximum allowed by law, if different, together with expenses incidental to collection, including specifically set forth reasonable attorney's fees of twenty (20) percent of the unpaid balance.

DATE

RECEIVED BY

PAID BY: CASH

CHECK #

CHARGED

OTHER



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO/DI

Thomas Todd (left) and Duncan Todd: Closing "The Shreve Crump & Low of printers."

Finis for the Thomas Todd Co

Quality Boston printing company was in business for 127 years

By Julia Collins
SPECIAL TO THE GLOBE

Boston's tightly knit printing and publishing communities are buzzing with unexpected news: Thomas Todd Co., one of New England's most venerable printing firms, closed the doors for good on its printing operation this week.

For 127 years, customers seeking quality printing have often turned to five generations of the Todd family.

Eleanor Garvey, Philip Hofer Curator of Printing and Graphic Arts Emerita in Harvard's Houghton Library, was "devastated" to hear of the closing. A Todd client for nearly 30 years, she said, "My friends and colleagues in Boston have always felt so close to the Todds. It's terrible to lose a company that has such a fine tradition handed down from generation to generation."

Modest in size, large in reputation, Thomas Todd Co. is the oldest printing company in Boston still owned by the same family. "The Shreve Crump & Low of printers," one colleague called them.

Since January 1864, the Todd family business

resided on Beacon Hill in a stately Victorian office building, just up the street from Goodspeed's Book Shop, next door to the Boston Athenaeum, and a stone's throw from the State House. At one time, a slew of printers worked in the area. But long since they folded or moved to the suburbs and cheaper quarters, the Todds remained, anchored in Old Boston.

An elevator in the dowdy lobby of No. 14 Beacon St. brings visitors to the top floor, Room 802, the main offices of Thomas Todd Co. since it moved into the building. The presses and other equipment are housed in the basement, which has meant years of journeying between floors. Upstairs, samples of printed products are on display. Windows frame cityscapes. The plain furniture and fixtures look as though they settled in with the first Todds. Here and there are relics: a wooden sign from a previous Todd establishment, an ancient thermometer that refuses to rise past 80 — as close to central air-conditioning as the Todds have gotten.

This historic and expensive location, so much a part of the company's Proper Bostonian aura, was a big factor in its undoing. "We have been tenants of the same landlord since 1864, and have stayed

in a downtown building which over the years become increasingly unsuitable for a print operation," said Duncan Todd, 39, president of the company and the fifth generation of Todds in the printing business. "Our business is no longer compatible with this space, so staying didn't appear to be an option, and the cost of moving into more suitable space was very high relative to the value of our company."

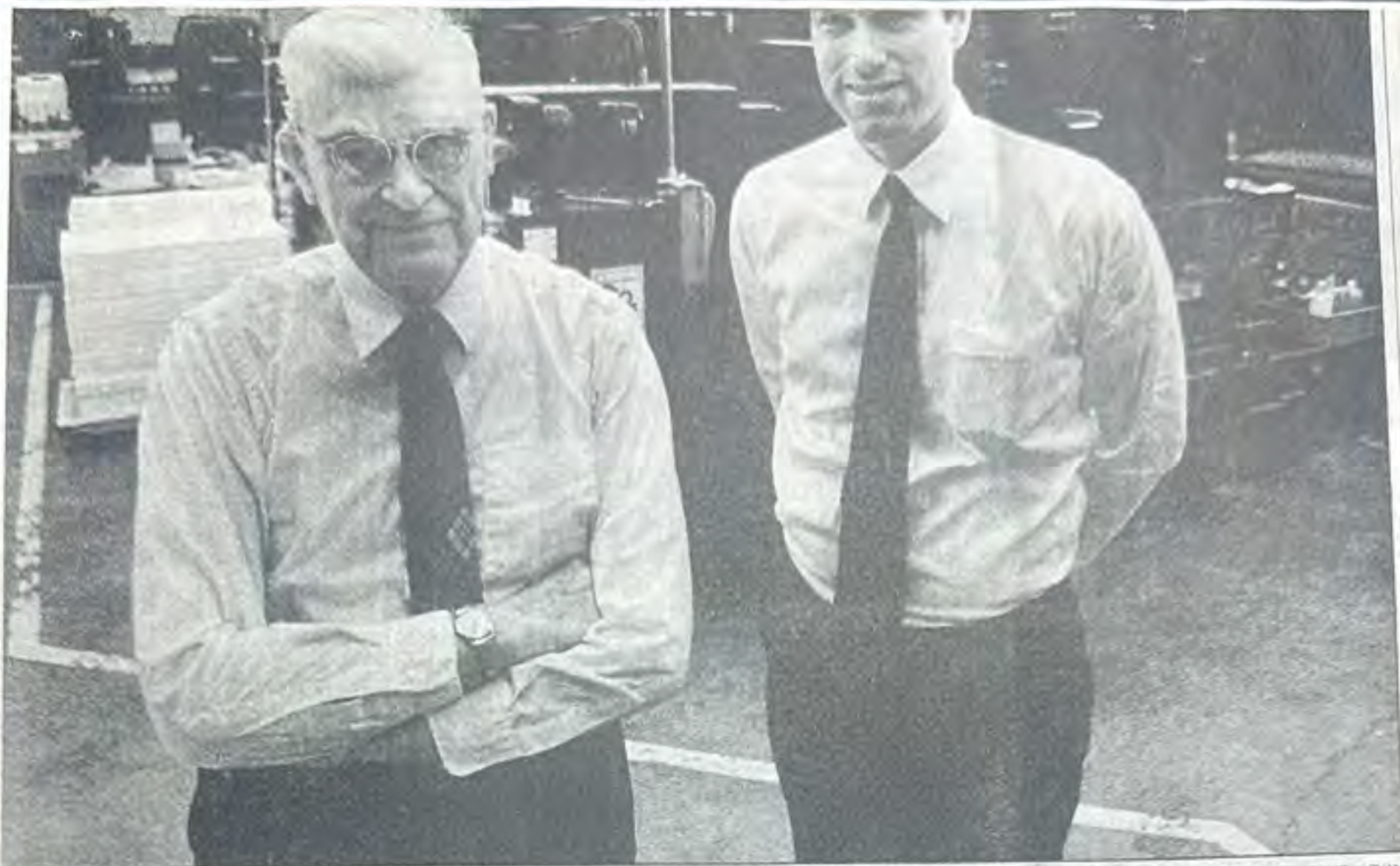
The recession also hurt the firm, as it has the entire troubled printing industry. "These are difficult times," said Stephen Stinehour of the 24-hour Press in Lunenburg, Vt., also family-owned. "On a weekly basis I'm seeing auction notices for printers, typesetters, color separators, binoculars, printing-related fields. Mergers and acquisitions are taking place at a rate not seen before. There are fewer individual printers, and larger ones are buying plants around the country. Printing is a tradition of family-owned businesses that's disappearing."

Duncan Todd and his father Thomas worked in adjoining offices, with the door open between them. In his early 70s, Thomas Todd is company treasurer.

PRINTER, I

Printers
Th. Todd

clippings
other



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO / DAVID L. RYAN

Todd (left) and Duncan Todd: Closing "The Shreve Crump & Low of printers."

Finis for the Thomas Todd Co.

Quality Boston printing company was in business for 127 years

By Julia Collins
SPECIAL TO THE GLOBE

Boston's tightly knit printing and publishing communities are buzzing with unexpected news: Thomas Todd Co., one of New England's most venerable printing firms, closed the doors for its printing operation this week.

127 years, customers seeking quality have often turned to five generations of 1 family.

Nor Garvey, Philip Hofer Curator of and Graphic Arts Emerita in Harvard's Library, was "devastated" to hear of ng. A Todd client for nearly 30 years, she y friends and colleagues in Boston have elt so close to the Todds. It's terrible to mpany that has such a fine tradition down from generation to generation."

est in size, large in reputation, Thomas is the oldest printing company in Boston ed by the same family. "The Shreve & Low of printers," one colleague called

January 1864, the Todd family business

resided on Beacon Hill in a stately Victorian office building, just up the street from Goodspeed's Book Shop, next door to the Boston Athenaeum, and a stone's throw from the State House. At one time, a slew of printers worked in the area. But long since they folded or moved to the suburbs and cheaper quarters, the Todds remained, anchored in Old Boston.

An elevator in the dowdy lobby of No. 14 Beacon St. brings visitors to the top floor, Room 802, the main offices of Thomas Todd Co. since it moved into the building. The presses and other equipment are housed in the basement, which has meant years of journeying between floors. Upstairs, samples of printed products are on display. Windows frame cityscapes. The plain furniture and fixtures look as though they settled in with the first Todds. Here and there are relics: a wooden sign from a previous Todd establishment, an ancient thermometer that refuses to rise past 80 — as close to central air-conditioning as the Todds have gotten.

This historic and expensive location, so much a part of the company's Proper Bostonian aura, was a big factor in its undoing. "We have been tenants of the same landlord since 1864, and have stayed

in a downtown building which over the years has become increasingly unsuitable for a printing operation," said Duncan Todd, 39, president of the company and the fifth generation of Todds in the printing business. "Our business is no longer compatible with this space, so staying didn't appear to be an option, and the cost of moving into more suitable space was very high relative to the size of our company."

The recession also hurt the firm, as it has the entire troubled printing industry. "These are difficult times," said Stephen Stinehour of the Stinehour Press in Lunenburg, Vt., also family-owned. "On a weekly basis I'm seeing auction notices of printers, typesetters, color separators, binders, all printing-related fields. Mergers and acquisitions are taking place at a rate not seen before. There are fewer individual printers, and larger ones are buying plants around the country. Printing has a tradition of family-owned businesses that's disappearing."

Duncan Todd and his father Thomas work in adjoining offices, with the door open between. In his early 70s, Thomas Todd is company treasurer.

After 127 years, Todd ends printing

■ PRINTER

Continued from Page 61

As the younger Todd relates the company's history, his father occasionally interjects a comment or clarification. "He will correct me if I misstate," his son says. "That is, if I listen," his father replies from the other room.

The hardworking, serious Todds suit their understated surroundings. Both dress in conservative attire: gray slacks, white shirts, plain ties. The family resemblance is strong between them. When either Todd speaks, his blend of courtesy and reticence harks back to another time. Both are tall; Duncan so much so that one acquaintance observed, "he ducks a lot; if Duncan stood up straight at the correcting booth, he'd crack his head." Father and son are graduates of Dartmouth College, a longtime client.

Many clients refer to the Todds as "gentlemen printers," recalling an old-fashioned and gracious way of conducting business. The Todd Golden Rule hasn't changed a whit since the company's founding. According to Duncan Todd, the philosophy, "as handed down to me, is to do the job right, to treat people whether they're employees, customers, or suppliers with respect, with dignity, and to operate in an honest and honorable fashion."

From the beginning, employees have stayed. Vincent (Vinnie) Caira has worked for Thomas Todd since 1964 as a lithographic cameraman. "When I arrived," he said, "there were some gentlemen here who'd already put in 56 and 57 years. Today there are several who've put in 35 or 40. Maybe it's because we've had a sense of home. It's a credit to the Todds that we've all gotten along well; there's a great bunch of people working here."

In 1967 Vinnie's brother Al followed him into the business as assistant shipper; today Al is production manager. The comptroller has been on the job since 1957; the designer for nearly 25 years. For 35 years Francis Prendergast, former head of shipping, and today's Thomas Todd brown-bagged and played rapid-fire

since 1974. He has served as the youngest president of the Society of Printers and one of the youngest general chairmen of the Printing and Publishing Council of New England.

The succession of Todds have preserved company records, diaries, and other artifacts. Victorian wit mingles with dry business accounts: in the company's type specimen book from 1893, the second Thomas Todd printed, "Business will be rushing down below/for printers ne'er to heaven shall go." Two Latin maxims printed on an early Todd business card are still apt: "Spectemur agendo" ("By our work may we be judged") and "Mellora sequamur" ("Striving for better things").

Terry Baker, retired vice president of Houghton Mifflin Co., has known and worked with the Todds since the 1950s. He sifted through company archives to write a history of the family enterprise, and spoke on his research at a recent gathering of the Society of Printers at the Club of Odd Volumes. Informed "at the 11th hour" of the company's impending closure, Baker said he was saddened to give his talk an unhappy ending.

Over the years, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Fogg Museum, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Houghton Mifflin, Little, Brown & Co., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, and a host of other familiar New England names have called on the Todds.

The company has printed everything from sermon books and circulars during early years to stationery, fund-raising pieces, art reproductions, exhibition catalogues, books, and other specialty projects.

Thomas Todd Co. has been in the midst of this century's dramatic transformation in printing technology, from wood-frame press to five-color press with computer console; and from hand-set type to Linotype to computer-generated film. The firm pioneered and is famous for its fine-line screen halftone and duotone process.

to Duncan Todd, the philosophy, "as handed down to me, is to do the job right, to treat people whether they're employees, customers, or suppliers with respect, with dignity, and to operate in an honest and honorable fashion."

From the beginning, employees have stayed. Vincent (Vinnie) Cairn has worked for Thomas Todd since 1964 as a lithographic cameraman. "When I arrived," he said, "there were some gentlemen here who'd already put in 56 and 57 years. Today there are several who've put in 35 or 40. Maybe it's because we've had a sense of home. It's a credit to the Todds that we've all gotten along well; there's a great bunch of people working here."

In 1967 Vinnie's brother Al followed him into the business as assistant shipper; today Al is production manager. The comptroller has been on the job since 1957; the designer for nearly 25 years. For 35 years Francis Prendergast, former head of shipping, and today's Thomas Todd brown-bagged and played rapid-fire chess together every day - as many as eight games in a lunch hour.

The demise of the family printing business is a painful subject neither Todd cares to probe. Duncan Todd emphasizes that the company is not closing down entirely: "There are two parts of Thomas Todd Co. The main part is the printing operation, but [we also have] majority ownership in The Horn Book Inc.," which publishes The Horn Book Magazine, a bimonthly review of children's literature that Duncan Todd's grandfather first printed in 1924, as well as The Horn Book Guide to Children's Literature.

Thomas Todd Co. chronicles began in 1811, when the first Thomas answered a Portland, Maine, newspaper advertisement: "WANTED: A lad from 14 to 16 years of age as an apprentice to the Printing Business." Todd advanced to newspaper publisher and job printer. He moved his family to Boston after his business fell on hard times. His son, the second Thomas Todd, became a printer's apprentice in 1848 at the Newspaper Exchange on Washington Street, in the composing room of a nondenominational weekly. In 1864 he launched the business that would become Thomas Todd Co.

Two more Thomases followed at the helm. Duncan Todd, the only break in the first-name chain, has been with the company full-time

ing closure, Baker said he was saddened to give his talk an unhappy ending.

Over the years, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Fogg Museum, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Houghton Mifflin, Little, Brown & Co., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, and a host of other familiar New England names have called on the Todds.

The company has printed everything from sermon books and circulars during early years to stationery, fund-raising pieces, art reproductions, exhibition catalogues, books, and other specialty projects.

Thomas Todd Co. has been in the midst of this century's dramatic transformation in printing technology, from wood-frame press to five-color press with computer console; and from hand-set type to Linotype to computer-generated film. The firm pioneered and is famous for its fine-line screen halftone and duotone process.

The Todds' quality and service made working with them a privilege, but an increasingly unaffordable one for many. Also affecting not only the Todds' business but their colleagues' as well are the proliferation of costly computer technologies. Duncan Todd said his great-grandfather "had a time horizon of 40 years before he had to worry about modernizing his composition system. Today the time horizon in the printing business is at best perhaps 24 months."

The Todds' departure leaves a hole. "It feels as if an era has ended," said Susan McNally, a freelance production coordinator. Sam Ellenport, head of the Harcourt Bindery in Fort Point Channel, said that "in their work the driving force is the love of printing and its history. That sensitivity about printed words and their importance always comes through, which is being lost now. You can count on one hand the similar firms remaining in New England."

"I'm extremely disappointed and sad that they'll stop printing. It's bad news for Boston and bad for printing in general," said Susan Marsh, a graphic designer. "You never want to see people as skilled as the Todds cease to do what they do so beautifully. Part of that tradition will live on in The Horn Book Magazine, and in the legacy of beautiful books they've made."

'These are difficult times. On a weekly basis I'm seeing auction notices of printers, typesetters, color separators, binders, all printing-related fields.'

STEPHEN STINEHOUR, *Stinehour Press, Lunenburg, Vt.*



Thomas Todd (left) and Duncan Todd: Closing "The Shreve Crump & Low of printers."

GLOBE STAFF PHOTO / DAVID L. RYAN

Finis for the Thomas Todd Co.

Quality Boston printing company was in business for 127 years

By Julia Collins
SPECIAL TO THE GLOBE

Boston's tightly knit printing and publishing communities are buzzing with unexpected news: Thomas Todd Co., one of New England's most venerable printing firms, closed the doors for good on its printing operation this week.

For 127 years, customers seeking quality printing have often turned to five generations of the Todd family.

Eleanor Garvey, Philip Hofer Curator of Printing and Graphic Arts Emerita in Harvard's Houghton Library, was "devastated" to hear of the closing. A Todd client for nearly 30 years, she said, "My friends and colleagues in Boston have always felt so close to the Todds. It's terrible to lose a company that has such a fine tradition handed down from generation to generation."

Modest in size, large in reputation, Thomas Todd Co. is the oldest printing company in Boston still owned by the same family. "The Shreve Crump & Low of printers," one colleague called them.

Since January 1864, the Todd family business

resided on Beacon Hill in a stately Victorian office building, just up the street from Goodspeed's Book Shop, next door to the Boston Athenaeum, and a stone's throw from the State House. At one time, a slew of printers worked in the area. But long since they folded or moved to the suburbs and cheaper quarters, the Todds remained, anchored in Old Boston.

An elevator in the dowdy lobby of No. 14 Beacon St. brings visitors to the top floor, Room 802, the main offices of Thomas Todd Co. since it moved into the building. The presses and other equipment are housed in the basement, which has meant years of journeying between floors. Upstairs, samples of printed products are on display. Windows frame cityscapes. The plain furniture and fixtures look as though they settled in with the first Todds. Here and there are relics: a wooden sign from a previous Todd establishment, an ancient thermometer that refuses to rise past 80—as close to central air-conditioning as the Todds have gotten.

This historic and expensive location, so much a part of the company's Proper Bostonian aura, was a big factor in its undoing. "We have been tenants of the same landlord since 1864, and have stayed

in a downtown building which over the years has become increasingly unsuitable for a printing operation," said Duncan Todd, 39, president of the company and the fifth generation of Todds in the printing business. "Our business is no longer compatible with this space, so staying didn't appear to be an option, and the cost of moving into more suitable space was very high relative to the size of our company."

The recession also hurt the firm, as it has the entire troubled printing industry. "These are difficult times," said Stephen Stinehour of the Stinehour Press in Lunenburg, Vt., also family-owned. "On a weekly basis I'm seeing auction notices of printers, typesetters, color separators, binders, all are taking place at a rate not seen before. There are fewer individual printers, and larger ones are buying plants around the country. Printing has a tradition of family-owned businesses that's disappearing."

Duncan Todd and his father Thomas work in adjoining offices, with the door open between. In his early 70s, Thomas Todd is company treasurer.

After 127 years, Todd ends printing

■ PRINTER

Continued from Page 61

As the younger Todd relates the company's history, his father occasionally interjects a comment or clarification. "He will correct me if I misstate," his son says. "That is, if I listen," his father replies from the other room.

The hardworking, serious Todds suit their understated surroundings. Both dress in conservative attire: gray slacks, white shirts, plain ties. The family resemblance is strong between them. When either Todd speaks, his blend of courtesy and reticence harkens back to another time. Both are tall; Duncan so much so that one acquaintance observed, "he ducks a lot; if Duncan stood up straight at the correcting booth, he'd crack his head." Father and son are graduates of Dartmouth College, a longtime client.

Many clients refer to the Todds as "gentlemen printers," recalling an old-fashioned and gracious way of conducting business. The Todd Golden Rule hasn't changed a whit since the company's founding. According to Duncan Todd, the philosophy, "as handed down to me, is to do the job right, to treat people whether they're employees, customers, or suppliers with respect, with dignity, and to operate in an honest and honorable fashion."

From the beginning, employees have stayed. Vincent (Vinnie) Calra has worked for Thomas Todd since 1964 as a lithographic cameraman. "When I arrived," he said, "there were some gentlemen here who'd already put in 56 and 57 years. Today there are several who've put in 35 or 40. Maybe it's because we've had a sense of home. It's a credit to the Todds that we've all gotten along well; there's a great bunch of people working here."

In 1967 Vinnie's brother Al followed him into the business as assistant shipper; today Al is production manager. The comptroller has been on the job since 1967; the designer for nearly 25 years. For 35 years Francis Prendergast, former head of shipping, and today's Thomas Todd brown-bagged and played rapid-fire chess together every day—as many as eight games in a lunch hour.

The demise of the family printing business is a painful subject neither Todd cares to probe. Duncan Todd emphasizes that the company is not closing down entirely: "There are two parts of Thomas Todd Co. The main part is the printing operation, but [we also have] majority ownership in The Horn Book Inc.," which publishes *The Horn Book Magazine*, a bimonthly review of children's literature that Duncan Todd's grandfather first printed in 1924, as well as *The Horn Book Guide to Children's Literature*.

Thomas Todd Co. chronicles began in 1811, when the first Thomas answered a Portland, Maine, newspaper advertisement: "WANTED: A lad from 14 to 16 years of age as an apprentice to the Printing Business." Todd advanced to newspaper publisher and job printer. He moved his family to Boston after his business fell on hard times. His son, the second Thomas Todd, became a printer's apprentice in 1848 at the Newspaper Exchange on Washington Street, in the composing room of a non denominational weekly. In 1864 he launched the business that would become Thomas Todd Co.

Two more Thomases followed at the helm. Duncan Todd, the only break in the first-name chain, has been with the company full-time

since 1974. He has served as the youngest president of the Society of Printers and one of the youngest general chairmen of the Printing and Publishing Council of New England.

The succession of Todds have preserved company records, diaries, and other artifacts. Victorians will mingle with dry business accounts, in the company's type specimen book from 1893, the second Thomas Todd printed, "Business will be rushing down below for printers no'er to heaven shall go." Two Latin maxims printed on an early Todd business card are still apt: "Spectemur agendo" ("By our work may we be judged") and "Mellora sequamur" ("Striving for better things").

Terry Baker, retired vice president of Houghton Mifflin Co., has known and worked with the Todds since the 1960s. He sifted through company archives to write a history of the family enterprise, and spoke on his research at a recent gathering of the Society of Printers at the Club of Odd Volumes. Informed "at the 11th hour" of the company's impending closure, Baker said he was saddened to give his talk an unhappy ending.

Over the years, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Fogg Museum, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Houghton Mifflin, Little, Brown & Co., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, and a host of other familiar New England names have called on the Todds.

The company has printed everything from sermon books and circulars during early years to stationery, fund-raising pieces, art reproductions, exhibition catalogues, books, and other specialty projects.

Thomas Todd Co. has been in the midst of this century's dramatic transformation in printing technology, from wood-frame press to five-color press with computer console; and from hand-set type to Linotype to computer-generated film. The firm pioneered and is famous for its fine-line screen halftone and duotone process.

The Todds' quality and service made working with them a privilege, but an increasingly unaffordable one for many. Also affecting not only the Todds' business but their colleagues' as well are the proliferation of costly computer technologies. Duncan Todd said his great-grandfather "had a time horizon of 40 years before he had to worry about modernizing his composition system. Today the time horizon in the printing business is at best perhaps 24 months."

The Todds' departure leaves a hole. "It feels as if an era has ended," said Susan McNally, a freelance production coordinator. Sam Ellenport, head of the Harcourt Bindery in Fort Point Channel, said that "in their work the driving force is the love of printing and its history. That sensitivity about printed words and their importance always comes through, which is being lost now. You can count on one hand the similar firms remaining in New England."

"I'm extremely disappointed and sad that they'll stop printing. It's bad news for Boston and bad for printing in general," said Susan Marsh, a graphic designer. "You never want to see people as skilled as the Todds cease to do what they do so beautifully. Part of that tradition will live on in *The Horn Book Magazine*, and in the legacy of beautiful books they've made."