

NOTHING 3

This is an experimental issue of a fanzine, called Nothing #3, published by Richard Houn, B-331 Bryan Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. This was run off on the 24th of September, 1964, in Grand Works. Rompress Publication No. 12.

Hi folks. Guess what? That's right, I just bought me a ditto machine, and this is the first thing to be run off on it. It's an interesting story as to how I went about buying this thing, and here's how it goes:

It all started last night, when I was reading the paper. I've been reading the For Sale column in the want ads since I got here, in hopes that somebody would be trying to unload a mimeograph, cheap. I almost gave up, but last night I tried again, and sure enough, someone was having a Bummage Sale and trying to unload a "mimeograph machine". So I got a ride into town this morning, and went up to the fifth floor of the Security Building.

I went into Room 512, and looked around. The only thing even resembling a mimeo was a small little thing off in one corner. It looked like it was smaller than even this little portabobble typer this master is coming out of. It did have a drum arrangement and a little bottle thingum and some trays on the ends sticking out, so I figured maybe it really was something. The man selling it had never used it -- it had belonged to his partner, who had just died.

The machine is small and compact, yes, but it does work, and work well. I bought it for the sum total of \$8, even though he had it tagged at \$10. I figured that for \$8, how can you go wrong? I didn't know a thing about it, or even what it was...have you ever heard of an Apêcc Speedliner? I bought with qualms, but I bought it.

The next step was to take it down to Gaffaney's Office Supply Store to see if they knew what it was. I went in and told them I had just bought a little mimeo machine, and that I wondered if they could help me figure it out. Yes, sure, bring it on in. So I did just that. He looked at it...hmm, compact little thingum, isn't it? Yes, quite. S&N, that's a ditto, not a mimeo. Oh? Well, I guess that's all right. How do you work it?

He fiddled with it for about a half hour, and finally went over and got a pre-cut master unit somebody had been demonstrating a Heyers with. He pumped up the little bottle for a bit, and then turned the crank. Out came a copy, nicely done and very crisp. Goshwou, fellas, isn't that neat? They all looked at it. You mean that little thing did that? Yep. Well, ain't that a right dandy little thing.

Anyway, he showed me how to run it, and then referred me to one of his salesmen to sell me supplies. Ahahaha. I spend \$8 for a mimeo, and then buy \$12 worth of supplies. Oh, well, 3 reams of paper, a gallon of fluid, and 50 masters should last me a good little while unless I get rambunctious or something.

I brought it home, and here I am. I know it produced legible work for him, and it should for me, too. I hope. Plans for future zines: Handerings will remain mimeo, and the rest of the apazines will go ditto. I regress in reproc, I guess. Comments?