

NOTHING 3

This is an experimental issue of a fanzine, called Nothing #3, published by Richard Mann, B-331 Bryan Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. This was run off on the 24th of September, 1964, in Grand Forks. 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 Apco 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. Sen, 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. Goshwow, 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: Manderings will remain mimeo, and the rest of the apazines will go ditto. I regress in repro, I guess. Comments?

-- Richard Mann, 1964