

machine pooping out. I had worried about that because I can't replace and shuddered at the thought of major repair. Thanks much for getting me started and your 2/5

SEP 21 1972

9/20/72 Dear Js. A funny thing (for us) happened on the way to the post office this morning. Maybe it was because I was several hours later than usual, to accommodate HER. Anyway, the 3M man came up to me as I was entering and asked how the machine is working. I said I thought the heat is not yet right, that I can attribute poor copies to out-of-date paper but not uneven ones nor improvement as the machine warms up. That is when he pulled this here real sneaky salesman stuff on me and said, "Maybe you oughta have a service contract." I humped him and said that when they had a whole bunch of 3M goodies as giveaways for inquiring about one they sent no goodies and answered no inquiry, so how'm I supposed to know what the damned thing is. As he started to make his sales pitch I interjected, "Besides, I'd not think of it unless that \$19.50 is included." He thought we could work that out. I asked what it includes (staying away from the \$\$\$). Parts and labor, twice yearly visits for cleaning and checking, and parts includes (expensive) tubes. So, I asked him to speak to Lil while I was in the p.o. and she made a deal. I have been thinking about those tubes. I bought this machine before we moved her, and we are here 5 years ten days from now. Besides the tubes and the \$19.50 it will cost, at least, to put them in, it is about time for other parts to be going. And the machine is \$400.00 I couldn't think of spending now. Considering that I've made, from the number of empty 500-sheet boxes around, maybe 20,000 copies without a part, I'm on borrowed time. So, we're in effect tithed, \$1.00 a week + 50¢, but I'll be able to make better copies and waste less paper. Unless I can arrange delivery for new paper (which I'll still save for important work until the old is gone) on the two days I'll be without the car next week, I'll not order new paper until week after. Anyway, the we splurged on when they had a special on it. Got gyped by deception. Can't get it locally, as the ad said, but delivery is but \$2.00, on 1¢ per sheet. I got to thinking about it afterwards, and what this really means is that for \$52.50 a year I can avoid buying a new machine, which is impossible for us. So, if you want the fast stories I've been and will be writing about, don't hold back. We've got at least 1,000 sets of paper paid for and I'll not now worry about the