



BNA's PATENT, TRADEMARK & COPYRIGHT JOURNAL

DAVID L. LADD APPOINTED REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS

The Librarian of Congress has appointed David L. Ladd as Register of Copyrights, effective June 2, 1980. He succeeds Barbara A. Ringer, who retired May 30, 1980.

Ladd, a former Commissioner of Patents under President Kennedy, is the first Commissioner to also serve as Register of Copyrights. Born in 1926 in Nauvoo, Ohio, Ladd graduated from law school at the University of Chicago in 1953. He is a member of the Illinois bar, the Ohio bar, the American Patent Law Association, the Chicago Patent Law Association, the Patent Office Society, and the Advisory Board of the American Association for Advancement of Invention and Innovation.

Since 1953, Ladd has specialized in the practice of intellectual property law, first in Chicago, and then in Dayton, Ohio. At the time of his appointment, Ladd was a Professor of Law at the University of Miami and co-director of the University's Olin Fellowship Program.

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INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION BILL PASSED BY SENATE

The Senate, on May 28th, passed by voice vote S. 1250, the "Stevenson Technology Innovation Act of 1980."

S. 1250 was introduced last year by Senator Adlai Stevenson (D-Ill.). See 432 PTCJ A-5, E-1. The bill is designed to improve: (1) the ability of universities and industry to collaborate in generating new ideas; and (2) the Government's capability to identify specific problems and opportunities in order to advance socially and economically important technologies. The bill thus authorizes Government and industry-funded generic technology centers at universities and nonprofit institutions. These "Centers of Industrial Technology" would be permitted to acquire title to inventions resulting from the joint research. S. 1250 also creates and funds a new Office of Industrial Technology in the Department of Commerce.

The Senate Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space held several days of hearings on S. 1250 last year. See 436 PTCJ A-27, 457 PTCJ A-6.

Floor remarks and the text of S. 1250 (as published in the Congressional Record, 5/28/80 p. S5861), appear at page D-1.

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"OTHER LITIGATION" EXCUSES DELAY IF PATENTEE PROVIDES NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENFORCE RIGHTS

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has some good news and some bad news for a litigious patentee. The good news is that involvement in "other litigation" is sufficient to ward off a laches defense because the defendant was warned that the patentee would eventually enforce its rights. The bad news is that the patent cannot be construed to establish infringement. (*Studiengesellschaft Kohle v. Eastman Kodak Co.*, 5/15/80)