Notes on PTC Progress

National Inventors Council

The National Inventors Council (see IDEA, Vol. 1, no. 2, 1957) has relocated its offices at the Franklin Pierce Law Center. Dr. C. Stark Draper has been appointed chairman of the Council and Jacob Rabinow will continue to serve as its executive director.

Council members include:

C.E. Anagnostopoulos,
General Manager,
New Enterprise Division
Monsanto Company
St. Louis, Missouri

Atty. Lawrence B. Biebel
Biebel, French & Bugg
Dayton, Ohio

Prof. William Bollay
Santa Barbara, California

Myrin A. Coler, Director
Creative Science Program
New York University
New York, N.Y.

Harry S. Kantor
Silver Spring, Md.

Narinder S. Kapany, President
Kaptron, Inc.
Palo Alto, California

William McLean
San Diego, California

Jan A. Rajchman,
Staff Vice President
Information Sciences
RCA Laboratories
Princeton, N.J.

Dr. Samuel Ruben
Ruben Laboratories
New Rochelle, N.Y.

Robert F. Rushmer, Director
Center for Bioengineering
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington

Brooks Walker, President
Shasta Forests Company
San Francisco, California

Richard Walton
Boston, Massachusetts

John Stedman
University of Wisconsin
School of Law
Madison, Wisconsin

The NIC is now in operation at the Law Center with Charles Herron (Administrative Manager) servicing members of the inventive community.

A meeting in the fall of this year of a planning sub-committee will be held to recharter the Council's priorities and programs.

Center of International Studies on Industrial Property (Strasbourg).

In May of this year, M. Francois Savignon, Director of the Institute of Industrial Property (Paris), visited the PTC and Law Center. He is resigning his position in the French Ministry of Industry and will assume at the same time the responsibilities as vice president of the administration advisory council for the Center of International Studies on Industrial Property (CEIPI) at the University of Strasbourg.

M. Savignon brought with him ideas for joint ventures between the CEIPI and PTC in conducting research with the European countries, especially EEC countries, and the United States. Much of the day's discussion centered around an exchange program of CEIPI and Law Center students and faculty. These cooperative efforts between CEIPI and the Law Center are now under development.

M. Savignon has agreed to keep IDEA and its readers abreast of the current state of French and EEC laws as they pertain to areas of patents, trade regulation, and the like. The first of his articles appears in the Comments section of this issue.

Research

Technology Transfer of Domestic Corporations. The Licensing Executives Society (U.S.A.) has awarded financial assistance to the PTC for study on the role of United States technology transfer, nationally and internationally, and its effects on the research and development performance of American corporations.

Questionnaires have been mailed to corporations across the country with follow-up personal interviews planned where feasible. While the sample size of personal interviews will be smaller in number than the mailed questionnaires, information gained from the interview will be of a broader scope and lead to concepts not normally available in written responses.

Problem areas under investigation center on bargaining positions in the national and international market, trends toward or away from importation and exportation of technologies and products, the role of the corporation as licensee and licensor, and comparative interpretations of domestic and foreign trade laws.

The responses will be used as a guide in determining research and development performances of domestic corporations in light

of the current state, incentives or deterrents, of the law and current economic developments.

Legal Periodical Abstracting and Computer Retrieval.

Communications from law librarians and other IDEA readers concerning the proposed abstracting legal periodicals (see IDEA, Vol. 17, no. 1, 1975) have been unusually rewarding. It appears to be a consensus of opinion that a substitute for present methods of information retrieval is greatly needed which could reduce search time while simultaneously enhancing the search quality.

As a result of the many positive letters received, the PTC plans to call a conference on this subject for the early part of 1976. For complete development of abstracting and computer storage-retrieval, input is required, however, from more than just the library community so that representation from the legal, publishing, and computer technology communities can be solicited, as well. Problems expected to be encountered at the conference include a common method of abstracting adaptable to all legal periodicals and the needs of different types of legal researchers, the technology suitable for accessing the same, and reproduction implications, such as copyright considerations.

Comments are welcomed by the PTC which will assist us in the augmentation not only of this program, but also our other programs for the continued interfacing of law and science.