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"THE ISSUE OF PATENTS FOR NEW DISCOVERIES has given a spring to invention beyond my conception," wrote Thomas Jefferson in a 1790 letter. This year our patent system celebrated its 175th anniversary. Since 1790 the system has expanded beyond anyone's conception. In 1790 only three patents were issued; this past year almost 53,000 were granted. The Supreme Court has announced that it will "break its fifteen-year silence" on patent questions by hearing six patent cases during its 1965 October Term. Mr. Carl S. Koenig's article, *Clarifying Patent Terminology And Patent Concepts*, then, is of particular timeliness. In no other area of modern law are the vital terms more commonplace—invention, novelty, innovation—yet their meanings more elusive. Mr. Koenig is a member of the patent bar and now resides in Washington, D.C.

The consumer credit industry frowns on the legal profession; its members are said to be poor credit prospects. Caplovitz (*THE POOR PAY MORE*) pinpoints the problem: "Lawyers know too . . . much." In retail installment credit transactions, too frequently consumer ignorance and a variety of social factors are effective weapons in the hands of the creditor. Several legislative responses have been proposed. A federal "Truth in Lending" bill is annually introduced in Congress; the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws are studying a uniform installment credit statute. Another look at the situation is taken by Mr. Thomas E. Willging in *Installment Credit—A Social Perspective*. Mr. Willging, who recently received his LL.B. from the Law School, has become well acquainted with the problem. As a staff member of the Neighborhood Legal Service Washington Project, Mr. Willging has had frequent occasion to joust with that time-honored doctrine, *caveat emptor*.

—THE EDITORS