

## EDITORIAL

I have the honour to succeed Gordon Cornish as Editor of this Journal following his appointment as Vice Chairman of BILA. We owe a considerable debt to him for the success he has made of the Journal and for producing it in its new format. He has kindly agreed to serve on the newly formed Editorial Board which will also include Jonathan Foster a Barrister with Elliston & Co. (UK) Limited and I am delighted to have their assistance and support. We wish Gordon all success in his new appointment and thank him most sincerely for his past services as Scientific Secretary and Editor of the Journal.

Your Editorial Board would like to see our Journal develop further with the publishing of not only papers presented at the meetings of BILA but other papers and articles submitted by members and friends of the Association on matters of topical insurance law. The Board have, therefore, asked no less than eleven members to act as Correspondents in specialised subjects and we hope they will contribute articles from time to time with members responding with letters, where appropriate. Roger Douulton, a partner of Solicitors – Winward Fearon & Co., – will, for example, be acting as our non-marine legal liability correspondent and has made a very thought-provoking contribution by his paper reviewing the National Consumer Council's reply to the Lord Chancellor's Review on Personal Injury Litigation. Unfortunately due to lack of space we have to publish Mr. Douulton's paper in two parts. He will in later journals be discussing a very topical subject – "Duty of Care on the Part of the Insured" and this will be particularly relevant to All Risks policies. Mark Dawbarn of Cannon Lincoln Group, who is our life correspondent, has contributed an article on Inheritance Tax and we thank him, together with Nick Stanbury of Directors & Officers Limited, who has also sent us an article on New Legislation Relevant to Directors and Officer's Liability.

Our Annual One Day Conference and AGM was a great success and is certainly to be repeated next September. There was an excellent attendance and we also enjoyed an address at lunchtime by the Insurance Ombudsman, Mr. James Haswell OBE., MA., who is always entertaining as well as informative. Papers given by members under "Members' Choice" proved to be most popular and are published in full in this edition. It is hoped members will be encouraged to submit similar papers at our next One Day Conference and AGM. The majority of the more formal papers are also published in this journal and we are only awaiting one paper, which we hope to include in our May journal. We have not published Mr. W.E. Pool's paper given to the Society at the Conference as this has been fully reported in two editions of The Post Magazine. Since his paper, the European Court of Justice has now

delivered judgement in the four cases referred to in his paper, it being held that the four countries – France, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany and Ireland – had failed to fulfil their obligations under the EEC Treaty and in particular Articles 59 and 60 in relation to the freedom of services in the field of insurance. The judgement is quite complicated but we have a Press Release dated 4th December 1986 should any member require a copy.

Our President's Lunch on 11th December was the most successful ever with 160 members and guests present. Lord Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, was one of our guests and the paper given by Professor Ian R. Scott on Reform in Civil Litigation will be published in the next edition of the journal. Professor Scott serves on the Lord Chancellor's Body dealing with Review of Civil Justice in England and Wales. John Cowell's paper to BILA, presented at our November meeting, on Product Liability Directive is also included in this issue and is a most frank view of this very topical matter.

Finally, may I wish all our readers a prosperous and successful 1987 and please do not forget our London Colloquium on 15/17th July 1987, details of which are available from Michael Cohen, ARA Conference Services, 90 Bedford Court Mansions, London WC1B 3AE (telephone number 01-637 0333). The theme is "Insurance as an Instrument of Social Engineering".

D.G. Cole

### **STOP PRESS:**

BILA wishes to congratulate its member Mark Weinberg on his knighthood in the New Year Honours List.