

EDITORIAL

Members who have attended the series of lunchtime talks which have taken place during the winter will be pleased to find the texts of some of those talks in this edition together with the views of BILA propounded by Gordon Shaw and Hugh Cockerell at the President's lunch last December. In addition to these papers and a number of book reviews, this edition contains three articles on topical issues which have not been presented as talks to members.

The duty of an assured to take reasonable care under the terms of his policy was considered in the case of *Sofi v Prudential Assurance Co. Ltd.* Deborah Tompkinson of Alsop Wilkinson provides a commentary which will be of interest to insurer and insurance lawyer alike.

The tentative beginnings of the use of structured settlements, helped along by the Inland Revenue's approval of model agreements with the potential consequence of tax benefits, have now led beyond judicial approval to judicial blessing, as Mark Hick of Wragge and Co. recounts.

It seems that *inter alia* the consequence of a recent EC directive no longer enables me to speak of the "proper law" of a contract. Should your xenophobic tendencies be exacerbated by this you will be relieved to know that in compensation your British registered car when driven in France will constitute a risk situated in Britain! Tony O'Dowd explains this and other recent developments in private international law.

NOTICEBOARD

Forthcoming events:

Chairman's lunch: 7th June 1991

AGM/Annual Conference: 17th September 1991

London Colloquium: 16th – 19th July 1991

BILA/CII joint meeting: 6th November 1991

President's lunch: to be announced (December 1991)

The dates for the winter series of talks will be announced in due course.