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SYMPOSIUM 1977 PRODUCTS LIABILITY INSTITUTE

INTRODUCTION

On March 11 and 12, 1977, the Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum, in cooperation with the Indiana State Bar Association and the Indiana University School of Law—Indianapolis, presented a Products Liability Institute in Indianapolis. The speakers at the Institute were nationally-known practitioners and academicians, and the topics discussed were areas of products liability law which are of interest to scholars and practitioners alike because of their timeliness and controversial nature. The Staff of the *Indiana Law Review* is pleased to present this Symposium, comprised of articles by participants at that Institute.

John F. Vargo, an attorney from Indianapolis, was the chairman of the Institute and has contributed an article to this Symposium on the subject of the standard for strict tort liability in Indiana. Professor Thomas F. Lambert, Jr., who is the Editor-in-Chief of the American Trial Lawyers Association *Newsletter* and teaches at Suffolk University Law School, gave an insightful overview of the subject for the participants. The next speaker, Dean Aaron Twerski, has contributed an article to this Symposium on the same subject as his presentation at the Institute: comparative negligence. Professor David Owen discussed the implications to products liability actions of a highly blameworthy manufacturer, and his article on the same subject appears in this Symposium.

Professor Clifford Davis' topic was settlements in multiple-defendant situations. His Symposium article expands on that topic and discusses contribution and indemnity along with the settlement issues. Professor Victor E. Schwartz, who teaches at the University of Cincinnati College of Law, gave a briefing report of the Interagency Task Force on Product Liability, of which he is a member. Professor Jerry J. Phillips, who teaches at the University of Tennessee College of Law and is the Dean Emeritus at that school, compared negligence and strict tort liability. He was unable to contribute an article to this Symposium but has recently published an article in

another law reivew, *The Standard for Determining Defectiveness in Product Liability*.¹ Professor Laurence H. Eldredge of the University of California, Hastings College of Law, contributed an enlightening review of the history of the *Restatement of Torts* in his presentation at the Institute. The final speaker at the Institute was Dean John W. Wade. His wrap-up has been adapted as the introductory article in this Symposium.

The *Review* is grateful to the sponsors of the Institute for the opportunity to publish the articles in this Symposium, and to the authors for their time and cooperation.

¹46 U. CIN. L. REV. 101 (1977).