

Preface

Hubert Humphrey begins the issue by urging that, "Quality is more than the merit of individual products, it is our total atmosphere." He sets the keynote for the issue. The authors and the articles represent the broad spectrum covered by the contemporary phrase "Consumer Protection." John Volpe describes the role of the Secretary of Transportation in the battle for safe products and a liveable environment. James Turner analyzes "Corporate Responsibility and Product Safety." He advocates a restructuring of priorities "to place consumers ahead of income." Colston Warne brings to bear his 35 years as founder and president of Consumer's Union in his discussion of the impact of independent product testing on the marketplace.

John Occhigrosso describes and explains the unique office of Commissioner of Consumer Affairs created in Nassau County in 1967—the nation's first county level consumer protection office. James Lorenz discusses San Diego's approach to consumer protection. San Diego has no specific office for consumer protection but rather relies on a "system of mutual cooperation for consumer protection between existing agencies." Both Occhigrosso and Lorenz feel that the county is the most effective level at which to wage the war for consumer protection.

Warren Siegel is Deputy Attorney General in California in charge of Investment Fraud and Business Crimes. He treats the problems of protecting people from rent skimming, from unscrupulous activities in the commodities market, and discusses the new California franchising law.

Joseph Kelner, former president of the American Trial Lawyers Association, writes on "The Fault System, The Courts and the Consumer Revolt." Benny L. Kass, from the unique vantage point of being a Commissioner of Uniform State Laws from the District of Columbia and as Washington counsel to the National Consumer Law Center, compares the Uniform Consumer Credit Code and the National Consumer Act.

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