

Questions arising with reference to the conduct of barristers, students of the Inns of Court, in which the conduct of any such barrister or student is impugned, are dealt with in the first place by the Benchers of the Inn to which the barrister or student belongs, and on appeal by the Judges of the High Court sitting together. The decisions of the Benchers and of the Judges in the case of an appeal are, as a rule, not published except in so far as they impose any penalty upon the barrister or student concerned.

In addition, there is, as is no doubt well known to you, a considerable floating body of practice and tradition in these matters, which for the most part, is not committed to writing, and certain bodies of barristers, for example, the members of a particular circuit or Sessions mess, are subject to rules regulating the conduct of the members of the circuit or mess, which in some cases are and in others are not committed to writing.

While on broad questions of professional etiquette and practice, no difficulty arises, and any member of the Bar can without difficulty regulate his conduct according to the view generally accepted in the profession, difficult questions sometimes arise under general or local rules, whether written or otherwise. It is open to any member of the Bar in any such case to submit the matter for advice or decision to the General Council of the Bar.

So far as the solicitor's profession is concerned, I am to suggest that you should seek advice from the Law Society, whose Secretary is Mr. E. R. Cook, Law Society's Hall, Chancery Lane, London W.C. 2.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

CLAUD SCHUSTER."

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE RIDDELL.

2. From the Lord Chief Justice.

"ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE,

London, W.C. 23/5/19.

The Lord Chief Justice, England, presents his compliments to Mr. Justice Riddell, and in reply to his letter dated the 6th inst., begs to inform him that no such written code of ethics exists in England, nor is His Lordship of opinion that there is any need for it.

HON. MR. JUSTICE RIDDELL,

Supreme Court of Ontario, Toronto."

3. From the Attorney-General.

"ATTORNEY-GENERAL,

May 23rd, 1919.

The Attorney-General presents his compliments to the Hon. Mr. Justice Riddell, and in reply to his letter dated the 6th inst., has to say that there is no written code of ethics for the legal profession in England. The decisions of the Bar Council on questions of professional etiquette form a more or less code for the Bar, and these are collected and published in a convenient form in the Annual Practice and in the Yearly Practice of the Supreme Court (e.g., Yearly Practice for 1918, vol. 2, p. 2054, "Etiquette and Practice of the Bar"). The Attorney-General does not think that a written code is desirable. Such a code could not be complete, because changing circumstances are bound to give rise to new questions from time to time."

4. From the Chairman of the General Council of the Bar.

"5, Stone Buildings,

Lincoln's Inn, W.C. 2.

May 26, 1919.

SIR,—

I am directed by the Chairman of the General Council of the Bar to reply to your letter of the 6th inst., and to say that, while there is no written code of ethics for the legal profession in England, the Bar Council have from time to time been asked to express their opinion on professional conduct in certain cases, and the rulings appear under the heading "Etiquette and Practice" of the Bar in the "Yearly Practice