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Another blow for English school staff

SEVERAL recent press releases have intimated that the teachers in Government English schools are quite happy with the principle and details of the proposed disestablishment of their schools. In fact many of them disagree very strongly with both.

In the first place, it is difficult to see how the English Schools Foundation (ESF) will be able to maintain and administer the Government schools, let alone make improvements, without

substantial increases in fees.

I know for a fact that the former Director of Education told a representative group of parents in 1974 that the increased administrative costs involved in the absorption of the Government schools by the ESF alone would lead to large fee rises.

Perhaps an official spokesman could explain how the situation has changed since 1974.

Furthermore the teachers are being offered the opportunity to continue in their jobs on worse conditions of service, a prospect they naturally do not view with much enthusiasm.

It might be added that this is the second reduction in the conditions of service for teachers in Government English schools, the first being in 1974.

EMILE