

The Post

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## 'CHANGE ATTITUDE ON PRIVATE SCHOOLS'

THE HK Professional Teachers Union and the HK Teachers Association have urged the authorities to change their attitude towards private schools, several papers reported today and yesterday.

The Professional Teachers Union in a statement criticised the Director of Education, Mr. Topley's speech last week at a Rotary Club luncheon meeting, and pledged their support to the proposals listed by the HK Private Anglo-Chinese Schools Association to incorporate private schools into the development plans for secondary education.

a number of suggestions to improve the standards of private schools and education in general, yesterday's papers reported.

The union accused Mr. Topley of prejudice, distorting facts in order to fool public opinion, giving the public a mistaken view of the private schools issue, and insulting the staff, students and operators of private schools, the papers said.

Mr. Topley was twisting the facts when he said that the proposals raised by the Private Anglo-Chinese Private Schools Association represented "subsidising the profits" of private schools, the Union claimed.

It said that granting allowances for teachers in private schools would not benefit the operators who had to pay their wages all the same, and that the proposals for in-service training and recognition of teachers' qualifications had nothing to do with profit-making, the papers said.

The Acting President of the HK Teachers Association, Mr. Ng Yuen-hing, also raised