Increased teacher pay primary factor in rise

Cost of Los Angeles city schools is going up far faster than the increase in either school population or numbers 1948-49. Consumer's price in- in. Total enrollment for 1956- 472,777 for 1956-57 (sixth month employes, over-all, when the 1956-57: of employes of the schools, according to a study completed dex is up 14.6 per cent for the 57 is 563,948. For 1948-49, it figures). With adult education 30,161 for 1956-57 is compared SALARIES recently by the staff of the California Taxpayers' associ- same period. ation, 610 South Main street.

Following are results of thesstudy, issued May 16 as a spe- PER PUPIL

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payers:

compared with \$253.60 for 1948. for 1948-49, the first year the 52.5 per cent greater than the 49. In other words, washing present single salary plan was 327,134 enrollment for 1948-49. out growth by making the com. in effect:

dropped out, the average daily with the 20,568 for 1948-49. was 279,278. Budget for the city schools ENROLLMENT

cial report to Los Angeles tax- Current cost per pupil is cent greater than the \$113,649, schools for 1956-57 (second for 1948-49. averaging \$373.90 for 1956-57, 617 total cost for the schools month figures) of 498,295 is EMPLOYES

Thursday, May 23, 1957

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A somewhat smaller increase in numbers of em-the 122 per cent increase in the ployes of the school district this parison on a pupil basis, costs of the Los Angeles city schools for current expenses (excluding are only 48.7 per cent greater, by the same years, cost of the city schools? are only 48.7 per cent greater, cost of the city schools? construction, etc.) are 47 per youngsters, adults, junior col- cent when the 320,329 ADA for pupils in average daily attend- spending program which tops a greater than the \$69,431,505 cent greater this year than for lege students, everyone thrown 1948-49 is compared with the ance . . . 46.6 per cent more quarter of a billion dollars for total of the two for 1948-49. Costs for buildings and equip-

Salaries for employes of the money, bond money, and page

attendance for the city schools With the school population up city schools reached \$135,879, ment of interest on outstandfor the current school year If adult education is dropped for 1956-57 of 455,426 is 48 per around 50 per cent, and the 364 for 1956-57, 110 per cent ing bonds) reached \$60,139,357 totals \$252,440,606 . . . 122 per out, enrollment for the city cent greater than the 307,189 number of employes of the city greater than the \$74,669,109 for 1956-57, more than double schools increased by about 50 paid in salaries for 1948-49. (141 per cent more) than the

per cent, what is the reason for Retirement costs for the em. \$24,916,631 spent during 1948-49.

PRIMARY FACTOL

Probing deeper into the reason for the tremendous increase in school costs . . . an increase more than twice as big as the increase in school population . . the ever-rising teacher salary scale stands out as the primary factor.

ment (including general fund

Teacher salaries in Los Angeles consistently average higher than they do in the 18 larger cities of the United States.

- Teacher salaries consistently average higher in Los Angeles than the average for the state of California. MEDIAN

For 1956-57, the median (midpoint) salary for an elementary school teacher in Los Angeles was \$5900 (half the elementary teachers got more, and half less). For the state, the median salary for an elementary teacher this year is \$4882.

For a high school teacher in Los Angeles, this year, the median salary is \$6240, compared with \$5586 statewide.

For a junior college teacher in Los Angeles, this year, the median salary is \$6920, compared with \$6489 statewide.

This year, for a teacher with maximum preparation, Los Angeles pays up to \$7800, with 514 teachers getting that sum. The median for the 18 larger cities, in the United States is \$6500. \$4250 MINIMUM

This year, for a teacher with minimum preparation, Los Angeles pays \$4250. Median for the 18 larger cities in the United States is \$3750.

Los Angeles this year is way out in front, and maintaining its lead, in pay for classroom teachers.

Heart of the problem clearly is salaries, which have risen drastically.

For example, in 1948-49, 38 per cent of the Los Angeles teachers were receiving less than \$4000 a year, 48 per cent were in the \$4000 to \$4999 bracket, and 14 per cent got more than \$5000 a year.

\$5000 TO \$7000

For 1956-57, no teacher in Los Angeles receives less than \$4000 a year; 24 per cent are in the \$4000 to \$4999 bracket; 61 per cent are in the \$5000 to \$7000

(Continued on Page 15)



