

Latest News From Descanso Gardens

Your editor is sorry to report that early in this month a report came in from the Gardens that Scotty Raitt had suffered a heart attack and was rushed to the hospital. At this writing the latest news about his condition is no change. Our best wishes and sympathy are extended to Frances Raitt and our hopes that Scotty will soon show some improvement.

Sometime early in the morning on July 7 Descanso Gardens had unwanted visitors. Some burglars (how many we do not know) broke into several buildings and took money and property. From the Department's standpoint an irreplaceable loss of Chinese stamps were among articles taken.

This unpleasant happening comes at a particularly bad time for Descanso's staff as they are currently involved in staging the most beautiful night lighting show ever held at the Gardens. All employees and their families will miss interesting displays of illuminated pools, fountains, waterfalls, miniature gardens, garden furniture, and hundreds of different types of garden night lighting, including low voltage lights that can easily be installed by the home owner if they do not make a trip to the Gardens before August 15. The Gardens are open during the show until 10:00 p.m.

Following ground breaking earlier in the spring, contractors have now started work in earnest in the construction of the teahouse complex located southeasterly from the main administration building. The Descanso Gardens Guild's dream of such a teahouse and oriental garden should cease to become a dream and instead a reality by early fall.

From Los Angeles County Employees Association

COUNTY EMPLOYEES SEEK "PARITY" WITH PRIVATE INDUSTRY BENEFITS: A plea for "parity" with private industry has been made by the Los Angeles County Employees Association, in presenting requests to the Board of Supervisors to update lagging fringe benefits for County employees. LACEA General Manager E. C. Holmes cited the following as prime examples of benefits which prevail elsewhere but are not received by Los Angeles County employees:

1) A County contribution to employee-paid Health Insurance programs. In requesting at least \$8 a month to defray the skyrocketing costs of medical care, Holmes said approximately 90% of private industry and California counties already contribute to employee health plans, as do State and Federal governments.

2) Premium pay for overtime. Holmes proposed that County employees be paid time and a half for week in excess of 8 hours per day or 40 hours per week. Overtime pay has long been the prevailing practice in most private industry, as well as in the 25 largest public jurisdictions in California.

3) Four-week vacation after ten years of service. Holmes said four weeks are already provided after long-term service by the City of Los Angeles and many other public jurisdictions.

Pointing out that principal County fringe benefits are far below those prevailing in private industry, Holmes stated: "If the public hopes to continue to attract and retain top-calibre employees, inequities must be eliminated."

ATTENTION!!!

Speaking of Opportunity only knocking once, (then moving on) the subject of the Suggestion Box is up for discussion and it might be noted that one might win \$100 for his clever suggestion, as pin money for vacation or a quickie trip to Las Vegas just for fun. In writing this suggestion, as requested by the Management, one has an opportunity to help oneself as well as the Department and fellow employees. Your good suggestion can mean extra dollars!! Come on THINK!!!





1965. "Attention!! [July 9, 1965]." *Delascan* 1965, 1.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/164530>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/148901>

**Holding Institution**

Missouri Botanical Garden, Peter H. Raven Library

**Sponsored by**

Missouri Botanical Garden

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Permission to digitize granted by rights holder

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.