

## William R. Watt to Direct Land Development Division

The appointment of William R. Watt to direct the new land development division of the Ray Watt Construction Company was announced today by President Ray A. Watt.

Watt, a former Naval officer in charge of construction at a midwestern strategic air command base and 1961 Stanford graduate, will coordinate the activities of outside land development in addition to supervising the preliminary land planning of all future condominium projects.

Although his present assignment is his first permanent one in the Watt organization, he has worked for the firm in a wide variety of positions since 1954. He has previous experience in the offsite engineering section, architect and design division, customer service department and as an assistant construction superintendent.

The former Fullerton High School graduate attended Stanford University where he received his Masters of Science degree in Civil Engineering (Construction). While at Stanford he was a member of Tau Beta Pi, national honorary engineering society, and played on the varsity water polo team.

During his two year tour

as a Lieutenant J.G. in the Navy Reserve, William R. served as Resident Officer in Charge of Construction at Bunker Hill Air Force Base in Peru, Indiana where he directed more than 1.5 million dollars worth of construction of administrative building, runway and apron lighting and airfield paving.

The native Southern Californian is the son of William S. Watt, executive vice president of the Ray Watt Construction Company. He lives in Torrance with wife Deanne and young son Patrick.



WILLIAM R. WATT

## Facts on Fall Lawn Care

The home lawn is apt to have a rag-tag appearance by this time of year. Summer's extended dry spells and compaction from heavy foot traffic are twin troubles which wary gardeners can avoid, but most of us are only human. Our lawns have suffered to one degree or another from neglect.

Fortunately, the time is ripe to do something about needy lawns—not so much for immediate effect as for the future, namely spring, when lawn grasses once again start to grow in earnest.

As a first step, use a mechanical sweeper or a wire rake and clear the lawn of summer's collected clippings and other debris which might smother the roots during a wet winter. Next, take a good stiff rake and work the lawn over thoroughly. Rough it up, don't be timid. Then mow it closely.

If you come from eastern or northern climes, you might expect at this time to apply lime to the turf to correct acidity. But in California, acidity is rarely a problem. Most soils are naturally neutral or on the alkaline side and liming is unnecessary.

### WEEDS

If you have weeds and who doesn't have a few, take the easy way out now by applying a commercial weed control. A local member of the California Association of Nurserymen can suggest one that works well. If you have a dichondra lawn or one with clover in it, spot control is recommended, for both will be affected by the weed killers.

Crabgrass can be a lawn pest of the first degree when you let it get started. There's no need to worry about it, however, for modern controls work wonders against it. Ask your nurseryman about special crabgrass killers and use one of them now that crabgrass plants are re-seeding themselves and going dormant.

Badly rundown lawns should be reseeded this month, as should Bermuda grass lawns if you want them green over the winter months. Wait about ten days after applying weed killer before you sow new seed, then rebroadcast it over bare spots in the same quantity you would use in planting a new lawn. After this, top dress with peat moss to cover the seed and sprinkle with a fine spray. Keep the seedbed moist at all times, even if it means three sprinklings a day, until the seed sprouts and takes root.

Bermuda grass lawns should be renovated by stiff cross-raking, as described above and by close cropping with a mower. Then overseed with rye grass, which sprouts quickly and will give you the green lawn you want during winter months when Bermuda grass is brown and dormant. Needless to say, you should top

dress and water as outlined in the paragraph above.

As for feeding, two fall meals—one now, another in November—of fertilizer high in nitrogen will provide the boost needed to keep lawns green during winter. This does not apply to newly seeded lawns, nor to established lawns that have been overseeded in bare spots, for the young grass is not ready for fertilizer. It definitely applies to all established lawns, however, whatever the old wife's tale about not feeding lawns before winter sets in.

The last item concerns watering and this, perhaps, is most important of all. Fall rains often mislead us into a false feeling of security as regards watering the lawn. All one needs to remember is that some 40 days of drought followed our early rains last fall in much of California. Nor is this especially unusual. Forty days is longer than most fall droughts, but half that long is no good for a lawn, and such periods are not at all uncommon. Just keep watering until the rains are more frequent and the weather is cool enough to keep soil moist between rains.

And in some areas, sad to tell, we really should stand the water watch right through winter. Our winter weather is that fair.

## County Library Circulation Gains

Despite September's freakish weather, the Los Angeles County Public Library continued to register a marked circulation gain over the same month in 1962 and closed out the first quarter of the 1963-64 fiscal year with a total 2,262,040 circulation—195,629 above the first quarter a year ago.

"This undoubtedly means, regardless of how the projections are computed, that the total circulation for the entire fiscal year will pass 10,000,000," County Librarian William S. Geller stated after reviewing his monthly statistical report.

He pointed out that the unseasonal rainstorm and heat wave kept many people away from the community libraries. Even so, the September circulation was 664,530 or 40,536 ahead of September, 1962.

Adult readers borrowed more heavily than did children, checking out 199,316 fiction books and 171,697 non-fiction works. Children checked out 170,900 fiction items and 79,065 non-fiction. Geller said that two new library buildings were dedicated and placed in public service during September as replacements for older, smaller buildings. "Our experience has been that new buildings will have a marked effect on circulation. These were new buildings at Artesia and at Temple City."

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