

AUG 5 1976

NYTimes

COUSIN OF HUGHES TO HEAD SUMMA

Lummis Named Chairman of Board—His Law Partner Also Gets a Position

By WALLACE TURNER
Special to The New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 5.—William Rice Lummis, 47 years old, a Houston lawyer who is a cousin of the late Howard R. Hughes, was named chairman of the board of the Summa Corporation today.

The corporation holds title to almost all of Mr. Hughes' estate, which has been estimated as worth more than \$1 billion.

F.W. (Bill) Gay, previously executive vice president, was elected president and will continue as chief executive officer and chairman of the executive committee of Summa.

The offices of president and board chairman were vacant in Mr. Hughes' lifetime. Company spokesman had explained that the reason was so that Mr. Hughes, the sole stockholder, could fill the positions if he wished.

Mr. Lummis was one of three new members added to the Summa board, which was expanded from five members to eight. The two other new members are Milton M. West Jr., who has been Summa's tax counsel, and William E. Rankin, vice president and treasurer.

Mr. West, like Mr. Lummis, is a partner in the Houston law firm of Andrews, Kurth, Campbell & Jones. Sources familiar with recent developments in Summa's affairs have pictured Mr. Lummis as relying heavily on Mr. West's advice.

Mr. Rankin is a longtime employee in Hughes enterprises, having held positions with Hughes Aircraft, Hughes Helicopter and Summa.

Gay Issues Statement—Company spokesman attributed the following statement to Mr.

"By these actions the representatives of the estate of Howard Hughes join with Summa Management in reaffirming a policy of continuity for the daily operations of the corporation."

Mr. Lummis was quoted as saying, "I will be as active in company affairs as I can find the time for."

The other four directors of Summa are holdovers, like Mr. Gay. They are Chester C. Ivis, who will continue as chief counsel; Nadine Henley, who will continue as senior vice president, and John Holme and Lavar Mylar. Mr. Holme and Mr. Mylar were members of a six-man staff of "executive assistants" who traveled with Mr. Hughes.

Mr. Lummis and Mr. West will join Mr. Gay, Mr. Davis and Miss Henley on the executive committee.

Directors Summon Managers

A company spokesman said that the director would spend the next two days discussing the current state of affairs of the Hughes empire. The directors have asked the managers of the Hughes hotels and casinos to appear before them with reports and forecasts.

But nowhere on the agenda is there a plan to discuss the problem of a Hughes will, the spokesman said. Up to now, a national search has failed to turn up any will that the Summa group and Mr. Hughes' relatives believe that he signed.

About three dozen wills have been filed with the county clerk in Las Vegas. One of these has been offered for probate. Sources inside Summa have said the directors are confident they can expose all of the wills as forgeries.

In the absence of a valid will, Mr. Lummis came forward as the representative of his mother, Mrs. Annette Gano Lummis, the 65-year-old aunt and closest surviving relative of the late Mr. Hughes.

With the backing of Summa executives, Mr. Lummis was designated by a Delaware court, where the company is chartered, as temporary administrator of Summa affairs. Thus, his assumption of a position of authority was not considered unusual.

However, it is the view of observers that the naming of Mr. West to the board suggests a feeling among Mr. Hughes' surviving relatives that they need greater representation on the board.