

CHINESE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY HAS BRILLIANT SETTING

Many Friends Join in Honoring Mr. and Mrs. Seid G. Back, Reception and Dance Hosts.

Resplendent with oriental tapestries and glowing lights, the holly-hock room of the Multnomah hotel offered a brilliant scene on Monday evening when Seid G. Back, one of the most prominent of Portland's Chinese merchants, and Mrs. Seid entertained more than 200 of their friends on the occasion of their twentieth wedding anniversary.

Following the honored custom of his father, whose death occurred three years ago, a similar function has been given each year at this time. Mrs. Seid, carrying a bouquet of roses and orchids, and her husband on the balcony, many prominent officials of the city being present in the company.

TAPERIES ARE HANDSOME

The rooms were hung with hand-woven tapestries of unusual beauty and intricacy of design. Some of the pieces were brought from the Orient early in the life of the host. One piece, notable for its size and magnificence, portraying a Hindu deity, was a gift of the late Mr. Seid's father. Other pieces have long been in the family and are treasured specimens of Chinese art.

A feature of the evening was a grand march led by Mrs. Seid. The music from "Lohengrin" was played by Mrs. Ella B. Jones, who played the wedding march for the host and hostess 20 years ago when they plighted their troth in the old Chinese Baptist mission, which then stood opposite what is now Meier & Frank's store. Supper and dancing followed.

FIRST CHINESE LAWYER

Said G. Back is the son of the late Said Back, who was widely known throughout Oregon. He was born in this city and received his schooling at Bishop Scott academy, later attending the University of Oregon law school, receiving his degree in law in 1907. He was the first Chinese admitted to the bar in this country.

MORE RAIN PREDICTION OF WEATHER BUREAU

Salem—15.5 feet above zero; rise of 4.5 feet. Oregon City—10.5 feet above zero; rise of 4.9 feet. Portland—10.4 feet above zero; rise of 2.6 feet.

However, later reports from Eugene today stated that the river is falling there again.

The lowest temperature during Monday night and early Tuesday morning was 41, according to the weather office. But in Eastern Oregon and Southwest Idaho, it is colder.

In Baker, a drop of 12 degrees was noted this morning, bringing the thermometer down to 34. Boise's temperature dropped 14 degrees, and at 5 a. m. was 26.

COLD IN EAST

East of the Rocky mountains, reports today indicated, it is very cold. In South Dakota it is 4 degrees below zero, and in St. Paul, 8 degrees below. However, no danger of any serious frost here, the local weather prophet announces.

The rainfall since Saturday to 5 a. m. today was .18 inches, having fallen Monday night.

SIDE OF HILL SLIDES

DOWN UPON TRACKS

Hood River, Jan. 27.—Following a snowfall of three inches and a silver thaw, heavy rains set in here and in 24 hours a rainfall of 2 1/2 inches had been recorded. Sunday night a heavy slide from a hill occurred on the railroad near Bridal Veil and trains were delayed many hours.

Early Monday Hood river had risen

REV. A. M. WILLIAMS INDUCTED AS HEAD OF ALBANY COLLEGE

Impressive Inaugural Ceremonies Held Before Large Throng; Chicago Man Delivers Address.

Albany, Or., Jan. 27.—Rev. Alfred Melvin Williams was inaugurated as president of Albany college this afternoon before a large throng at the First Presbyterian church. President Williams was elected to head the college December 2 and had been a trustee of the institution since 1909.

Rev. L. Myron Boozer of Medford presided over the impressive inaugural ceremonies, and the inaugural address was delivered by Rev. Howard Agnew Johnson, D. D., Ph. D., of Chicago.

Warren H. Landon, D. D., president of San Francisco Theological seminary, inducted President Williams into office.

The exercises, which were held at a chapel address by Rev. S. W. Seemann, D. D., of Portland, this morning. At noon the board of trustees met at luncheon and held a business meeting.

Prior to the services at the church an academic procession formed at the college, marching to the church.

Other taking part in the program were Dr. Wallace Howe Lee; Rev. George H. Young, D. D.; Rev. W. O. Forbes, D. D., of Seattle, and Frank E. Allen, president of the board of trustees, who conferred degrees.

Miss Alice Clement presided at the organ, with Charles South as violinist and Miss Mamie I. Lenhart as soloist.

This evening President Williams will be honor guest at a dinner.

President Campbell Attends

University of Oregon, Eugene, Jan. 27.—President P. L. Campbell is in Albany today, assisting at the inauguration of Rev. Alfred Melvin Williams as president of Albany college.

President Campbell will speak at the evening services and near the academic procession in cap and gown.

JURORS FOR REDS' CASE HARD TO GET

W. H. Abel, of counsel for the state, who resides in Montezono, was astonished at reports of "protesting" on the part of strangers in town and promised today to take steps to remedy the condition.

Hotel, but especially feeding accommodations, are at a premium. Practically all the out-of-town people connected with the case have taken private lodgings.

MOVIES ARE THERE

Motion picture operators from various points descended upon Montezono in force this morning and unhampered by the weather conditions, proceeded to shoot all the points of interest.

With special lighting equipment, they were able to attempt to get pictures in the courtroom, but Judge Wilson had not yet given his permission for this at noon.

JAIL DOOR STUBBORN

When jailers in the county bastille went to open the cells of the defendants this morning, preparatory to taking them to the courtroom, the lock on the cell occupied by Britt Smith, Michael Sheehan and Ray Brecker failed to unfasten and for two hours it resisted all the treatment the jailers could administer.

Finally yegman tactics were resorted to, the lock was "jimmied" and the prisoners admitted to the corridor.

James Smith, a brother of Attorney Elmer Smith, one of the defendants, was in the courtroom this morning, from his home near Centralia, and sat at the table with Vanderver.

LABOR TO HAVE JURY

Organized labor of the state of Washington will be represented at the trial by a jury of 20 men.

This much was learned at the hearings Monday from union labor representatives who are now in town and who say that a formal jury selected from all parts of the state will be present to hear the testimony in an ex-officio capacity.

That such a body will be welcomed and special preparations will be made in the courtroom to give them the best facilities for hearing was made plain by W. H. Abel of the prosecuting staff.

"We have nothing to fear from anything of this sort," said Abel. "We are trying a murder case where four men were killed, and it will be tried fairly on its merits. If labor wants to give their own jury we shall be glad to send them every assistance."

SEATS ARE RESERVED

Although the labor jury, so called, cannot be seated within the rail of the courtroom, it is likely, from the statement of the prosecutor, that arrangements to reserve places for the men in the front row of the spectators' benches will be made.

The significance that labor places on this case was repeatedly emphasized by Attorney George F. Vanderver for the defense Monday. Several times he remarked that it was a "labor" trial, as well as a murder trial, and once a remark of this sort was made by Abel.

Three hundred workmen were summoned for appearance when court opened this morning, but as the regular venire of 22, left over from the January trial of the Grayson county case, superior court, is far from exhausted, it is unlikely that any of the new drawing will be called to the jury box for examination.

PICTURE BARRED

Judge Wilson also announced that no more courtroom flashlight photographs are to be made.

The halls of the courtroom resounded here a dozen times with the concussion of magnesium explosions Monday as enterprising photographers "shot" everything from the "bridge of sighs," over which prisoners have been taken from jail to the courtroom, to pictures of the court in full sessions.

Fuge maps of the district in Centralia where the shooting occurred have been prepared by the prosecuting staff and will be used in the course of the trial. These are now being assembled at Abel's office. Abel said that more than 300 witnesses have been summoned by the state, and the first of these are expected in Montezono before the end of the week.

VANDERVER OBJECTS TO ONE MAN TAKEN BY PROSECUTION

By Fred H. McNeill (Over The Journal's Special Legal Wire) Montezono, Wash., Jan. 26.—Thomas C. Conner, 65 years old, re-

ALBANY COLLEGE'S NEW PRESIDENT INAUGURATED

Albany, Or., Jan. 27.—Rev. Alfred Melvin Williams was inaugurated as president of Albany college this afternoon before a large throng at the First Presbyterian church.

Warren H. Landon, D. D., president of San Francisco Theological seminary, inducted President Williams into office.

The exercises, which were held at a chapel address by Rev. S. W. Seemann, D. D., of Portland, this morning.

Prior to the services at the church an academic procession formed at the college, marching to the church.

Other taking part in the program were Dr. Wallace Howe Lee; Rev. George H. Young, D. D.; Rev. W. O. Forbes, D. D., of Seattle, and Frank E. Allen, president of the board of trustees, who conferred degrees.

Miss Alice Clement presided at the organ, with Charles South as violinist and Miss Mamie I. Lenhart as soloist.

This evening President Williams will be honor guest at a dinner.

President Campbell Attends

University of Oregon, Eugene, Jan. 27.—President P. L. Campbell is in Albany today, assisting at the inauguration of Rev. Alfred Melvin Williams as president of Albany college.

President Campbell will speak at the evening services and near the academic procession in cap and gown.

JURORS FOR REDS' CASE HARD TO GET

W. H. Abel, of counsel for the state, who resides in Montezono, was astonished at reports of "protesting" on the part of strangers in town and promised today to take steps to remedy the condition.

Hotel, but especially feeding accommodations, are at a premium. Practically all the out-of-town people connected with the case have taken private lodgings.

MOVIES ARE THERE

Motion picture operators from various points descended upon Montezono in force this morning and unhampered by the weather conditions, proceeded to shoot all the points of interest.

With special lighting equipment, they were able to attempt to get pictures in the courtroom, but Judge Wilson had not yet given his permission for this at noon.

JAIL DOOR STUBBORN

When jailers in the county bastille went to open the cells of the defendants this morning, preparatory to taking them to the courtroom, the lock on the cell occupied by Britt Smith, Michael Sheehan and Ray Brecker failed to unfasten and for two hours it resisted all the treatment the jailers could administer.

Finally yegman tactics were resorted to, the lock was "jimmied" and the prisoners admitted to the corridor.

James Smith, a brother of Attorney Elmer Smith, one of the defendants, was in the courtroom this morning, from his home near Centralia, and sat at the table with Vanderver.

LABOR TO HAVE JURY

Organized labor of the state of Washington will be represented at the trial by a jury of 20 men.

This much was learned at the hearings Monday from union labor representatives who are now in town and who say that a formal jury selected from all parts of the state will be present to hear the testimony in an ex-officio capacity.

That such a body will be welcomed and special preparations will be made in the courtroom to give them the best facilities for hearing was made plain by W. H. Abel of the prosecuting staff.

"We have nothing to fear from anything of this sort," said Abel. "We are trying a murder case where four men were killed, and it will be tried fairly on its merits. If labor wants to give their own jury we shall be glad to send them every assistance."

SEATS ARE RESERVED

Although the labor jury, so called, cannot be seated within the rail of the courtroom, it is likely, from the statement of the prosecutor, that arrangements to reserve places for the men in the front row of the spectators' benches will be made.

The significance that labor places on this case was repeatedly emphasized by Attorney George F. Vanderver for the defense Monday. Several times he remarked that it was a "labor" trial, as well as a murder trial, and once a remark of this sort was made by Abel.

Three hundred workmen were summoned for appearance when court opened this morning, but as the regular venire of 22, left over from the January trial of the Grayson county case, superior court, is far from exhausted, it is unlikely that any of the new drawing will be called to the jury box for examination.

PICTURE BARRED

Judge Wilson also announced that no more courtroom flashlight photographs are to be made.

The halls of the courtroom resounded here a dozen times with the concussion of magnesium explosions Monday as enterprising photographers "shot" everything from the "bridge of sighs," over which prisoners have been taken from jail to the courtroom, to pictures of the court in full sessions.

Fuge maps of the district in Centralia where the shooting occurred have been prepared by the prosecuting staff and will be used in the course of the trial. These are now being assembled at Abel's office. Abel said that more than 300 witnesses have been summoned by the state, and the first of these are expected in Montezono before the end of the week.

VANDERVER OBJECTS TO ONE MAN TAKEN BY PROSECUTION

By Fred H. McNeill (Over The Journal's Special Legal Wire) Montezono, Wash., Jan. 26.—Thomas C. Conner, 65 years old, re-

ALBANY COLLEGE'S NEW PRESIDENT INAUGURATED

Albany, Or., Jan. 27.—Rev. Alfred Melvin Williams was inaugurated as president of Albany college this afternoon before a large throng at the First Presbyterian church.

Warren H. Landon, D. D., president of San Francisco Theological seminary, inducted President Williams into office.

The exercises, which were held at a chapel address by Rev. S. W. Seemann, D. D., of Portland, this morning.

Prior to the services at the church an academic procession formed at the college, marching to the church.

Other taking part in the program were Dr. Wallace Howe Lee; Rev. George H. Young, D. D.; Rev. W. O. Forbes, D. D., of Seattle, and Frank E. Allen, president of the board of trustees, who conferred degrees.

Miss Alice Clement presided at the organ, with Charles South as violinist and Miss Mamie I. Lenhart as soloist.

This evening President Williams will be honor guest at a dinner.

President Campbell Attends

University of Oregon, Eugene, Jan. 27.—President P. L. Campbell is in Albany today, assisting at the inauguration of Rev. Alfred Melvin Williams as president of Albany college.

President Campbell will speak at the evening services and near the academic procession in cap and gown.

JURORS FOR REDS' CASE HARD TO GET

W. H. Abel, of counsel for the state, who resides in Montezono, was astonished at reports of "protesting" on the part of strangers in town and promised today to take steps to remedy the condition.

Hotel, but especially feeding accommodations, are at a premium. Practically all the out-of-town people connected with the case have taken private lodgings.

MOVIES ARE THERE

Motion picture operators from various points descended upon Montezono in force this morning and unhampered by the weather conditions, proceeded to shoot all the points of interest.

With special lighting equipment, they were able to attempt to get pictures in the courtroom, but Judge Wilson had not yet given his permission for this at noon.

JAIL DOOR STUBBORN

When jailers in the county bastille went to open the cells of the defendants this morning, preparatory to taking them to the courtroom, the lock on the cell occupied by Britt Smith, Michael Sheehan and Ray Brecker failed to unfasten and for two hours it resisted all the treatment the jailers could administer.

Finally yegman tactics were resorted to, the lock was "jimmied" and the prisoners admitted to the corridor.

James Smith, a brother of Attorney Elmer Smith, one of the defendants, was in the courtroom this morning, from his home near Centralia, and sat at the table with Vanderver.

LABOR TO HAVE JURY

Organized labor of the state of Washington will be represented at the trial by a jury of 20 men.

This much was learned at the hearings Monday from union labor representatives who are now in town and who say that a formal jury selected from all parts of the state will be present to hear the testimony in an ex-officio capacity.

That such a body will be welcomed and special preparations will be made in the courtroom to give them the best facilities for hearing was made plain by W. H. Abel of the prosecuting staff.

"We have nothing to fear from anything of this sort," said Abel. "We are trying a murder case where four men were killed, and it will be tried fairly on its merits. If labor wants to give their own jury we shall be glad to send them every assistance."

SEATS ARE RESERVED

Although the labor jury, so called, cannot be seated within the rail of the courtroom, it is likely, from the statement of the prosecutor, that arrangements to reserve places for the men in the front row of the spectators' benches will be made.

The significance that labor places on this case was repeatedly emphasized by Attorney George F. Vanderver for the defense Monday. Several times he remarked that it was a "labor" trial, as well as a murder trial, and once a remark of this sort was made by Abel.

Three hundred workmen were summoned for appearance when court opened this morning, but as the regular venire of 22, left over from the January trial of the Grayson county case, superior court, is far from exhausted, it is unlikely that any of the new drawing will be called to the jury box for examination.

PICTURE BARRED

Judge Wilson also announced that no more courtroom flashlight photographs are to be made.

The halls of the courtroom resounded here a dozen times with the concussion of magnesium explosions Monday as enterprising photographers "shot" everything from the "bridge of sighs," over which prisoners have been taken from jail to the courtroom, to pictures of the court in full sessions.

Fuge maps of the district in Centralia where the shooting occurred have been prepared by the prosecuting staff and will be used in the course of the trial. These are now being assembled at Abel's office. Abel said that more than 300 witnesses have been summoned by the state, and the first of these are expected in Montezono before the end of the week.

VANDERVER OBJECTS TO ONE MAN TAKEN BY PROSECUTION

By Fred H. McNeill (Over The Journal's Special Legal Wire) Montezono, Wash., Jan. 26.—Thomas C. Conner, 65 years old, re-

OREGON ISSUES 59,500 AUTO LICENSE PLATES SINCE FIRST OF YEAR

Police Notified to Enforce Law; Delinquent Motor Vehicle Owners Given Warning.

Salem, Jan. 27.—With approximately 59,500 automobile licenses issued so far this year, the automobile registration department of the secretary of state's office Monday had worked its way through the mass of applications with which it was deluged at the first of the year and is now issuing license plates promptly upon demand, so that there is no longer any excuse for any motorist evading the motor vehicle law by operating his car with an old license tag or with no license tag at all.

License tags have also been issued for 1150 motorcycles, 1100 chauffeurs and 370 motor vehicle dealers. The receipts of the department to date aggregating approximately \$1,260,000.

The business of the department this year shows a material increase over the business of a year ago. Up to January 26, 1919, licenses had been issued for 47,293 automobiles, 1135 motorcycles, 1200 chauffeurs and 341 dealers, with total receipts of \$2,640. The increase in the fees this year over those of last year, however, is accounted for by the large increase in the license fees imposed by the legislature and which became operative with the 1920 licenses.

Ten applicants for permission to practice optometry in Oregon took the examination before the state board of optometry here Monday. The examination was under the supervision of Dr. Floyd B. Dayton of Portland, president, and William H. Pearce of La Grande, secretary of the state association.

Gasoline consumed in Oregon from February 26, the date on which the fuel oil license law became operative, until December 31 last, totaled 31,853,988 gallons, with an additional 4,607,742 gallons of distillate, on the total sales of which the tax aggregated \$341,943.58, according to a summary prepared by A. Koser, deputy secretary of state.

Sales of motor fuel oil for December dwindled to considerably below the record of any previous month, the summary shows, due in large measure to heavy snows which prevented the operation of automobiles and motorcycles. Sales for December totaled 2,102,982 gallons of gasoline and 137,583 gallons of distillate, the tax on these sales aggregating \$21,717.72.

Either C. C. Scott or H. J. Eberle, deputies in the state forester's office, will be sent to March field, Riverside, Cal., in compliance with a request by H. H. Arnold, in command of the western department of the air service, United States army, for some representative of the Oregon forestry department at the field to prepare for the national convention of the patrol, according to J. A. Elliott, state forester.

Plans for the forest patrol work have not yet been completed, according to Colonel Arnold's information to State Forester Elliott, but it is practically certain that patrols will be maintained over the forests of Oregon, Washington and California.

The construction of a reservoir and the appropriation of \$8,000 acre feet of water from Big Marsh creek for the irrigation of land near Caping is contemplated in an application filed with State Engineer Cupper by J. P. Newell of Portland.

Other applications for water rights filed were: Plainview Irrigation company, appropriation of water from a tributary of Sparks lake for the irrigation of land in the Plainview Irrigation district, near Gist, Or.

Sophonra Nesbit and E. E. Hays of Hood River are applicants for the appropriation of water from the irrigation of land and a domestic water supply.

Carl Sandstrom of Dayville, Or., appropriation of water from the west fork of Oregon creek for the irrigation of 75 acres near Dayville.

Kick Is Fatal to Boy Vancouver, Wash., Jan. 27.—Hutchinson 4-year-old son, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hutchinson of Washougal, died at St. Joseph's hospital early this morning as the result of being kicked by a horse. The body is at Knapp's undertaking parlors.

U. of O. High School Has Capacity Roll

University of Oregon, Eugene, Jan. 27.—The University high school, under the supervision of the school of education, has been forced to close its doors to additional students.

ATTORNEY LITTLETON QUARRELS WITH COURT

That about a dozen were missing and it was finally decided to defer the start of selecting a jury until late this afternoon.

There was little serious aspect about the trial today. The senator and his brother, John S. Newberry, who is said to have contributed nearly \$100,000 to his brother's campaign fund, arrived early with a number of their supporters. There was much handshaking and joking among the defendants in the corridors.

One loud voiced defendant from the "upper country" yelled: "The Republican convention isn't going to meet in Chicago this year; it's going to be held in Port Leavenworth, Mich. Michigan delegation can attend!"

Shouts of laughter greeted this sally. The defendants packed the courtroom almost to the exclusion of spectators, although the latter filled the halls clamoring for admittance. The jurors had been herded into another room after being weeded out of the handshaking groups in the halls.

Judge Sessions took exception to Littleton's remark that the jurors had been selected by a method unknown to the attorneys for the defense. He declared this was not true. Littleton interrupted, saying he had not consented to the method, but a warning from the court against "stating untruths" silenced him.

Nearly all the defendants were in court today. They were a picturesque lot—hailing from all over the state, from the coast to the mountains, from the Indian districts of the North. Among them were judges, bankers, sheriffs, county chairmen—all types of political wood.

There was even one minister in the lot. Elmer E. White, clerk of Grand Traverse county, one of the accused, was excused when he sent a physician's certificate showing he was ill with influenza.

Attorneys for Newberry announced they would protest against the method taken by Judge Sessions in eliminating, before the trial opening, veniremen whom the judge believed were unfit for jury service.

Frank C. Dalley, in charge of the prosecution, hopes to see the jury completed by tomorrow afternoon.

About forty attorneys are expected to participate in the presentation of the defense's case. Martin W. Littleton of New York city heads the defense's legal array. George E. Nicholls will have charge of the defense's case during the jury selection.

Senator Newberry, accompanied by the other main defendants, arrived in Grand Rapids last night. Included in the party were John Newberry, brother of the senator, and Paul H. King, secretary of the Newberry campaign committee. Newberry was fatigued from his 36-hour journey from Washington and "stood out" when questioned regarding the case.

On the eve of the opening of the trial two pleas were changed. Allan K. Moore, Grand Rapids printer, changed his plea of guilty to nolle contendere.

Neil R. Walsh of Oswego, former prosecuting attorney of Shlawassee county, changed his plea of not guilty to nolle contendere.

As the trial opened, nine of the accused men had pleaded nolle contendere and the remainder "not guilty." The nolle contendere plea allows the respondents to pursue their regular businesses without appearing in court and guarantees immunity from a prison sentence if found guilty, assuring the accused men of no more serious punishment than a fine.

A dozen defendants failed to answer the bailiff's first roll call. Illness or late trains had detained these. Newberry, who strolled into court with a party of 10, responded to the roll call with a faint "here."

RE-ROUTING OF CARS VIA KENTON DISTRICT ASKED BY VANCOUVER

Chamber of Commerce of Washington City Would Bring Industrial Section Closer.

Vancouver, Wash., Jan. 27.—Clement Scott, president of the Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, and Chester F. Stumberg, local merchant, conferred with officials of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company in Portland Monday relative to the routing of Vancouver-Portland cars through the Kenton district, which would make that industrial district easily accessible from here. The matter is being investigated.

To consider the prospect of bringing a Lyceum course here, as discussed at the last meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, Professor C. W. Shumway, Allison Burnham and Donald McMaster were appointed a committee to investigate the matter.

To investigate advertising schemes presented at different times to Vancouver merchants, a committee consisting of the following business men has been appointed by Scott: R. F. Fullenwider, J. E. Jarry, C. F. Paige, F. J. Flynn, W. E. Hamilton and Irving Heuser Jr.

Two Seek Divorces Oregon City, Jan. 27.—Stella Van Gundy alleges desertion in her suit for divorce against Victor I. Van Gundy. Married only last October, Annie May Powell says that her husband, Glen O. Powell, deserted her in the month of June. Campbell issued an order Monday commanding Charles L. Ogilvie to pay into court \$25 suit money, \$50 attorney's fees and \$100 for Nellie J. Ogilvie, whom Ogilvie is suing for a divorce. A decree of divorce was issued to Martha L. Miles from Herbert L. Miles.

Increase in the scope of the farm loan statutes and taxation of farm loan bonds will be discussed at the meeting. Among the prominent speakers on the program are A. W. Hendricks, vice president of the joint stock loan bank, San Francisco; A. W. Cauthorne, director of the Portland federal loan bank, and C. E. Woodcock, chief appraiser of the federal loan banks, Spokane. The session will continue over Wednesday.

University of Oregon, Eugene, Jan. 27.—To the Women's building fund a check for \$100 was added Monday by the Labbe brothers of Portland. The money was sent by Henry C. Labbe, consular agent of France and vice consul of Belgium.

Many subscriptions have been received at different times, ranging from \$1 to \$25. All were solicited during the Christmas vacation and the total of the holiday drive will soon reach \$10,000.

A new honorary educational society was formed by about 20 students of the school of education recently. Miss Ruth Montromer, being elected temporary chairman