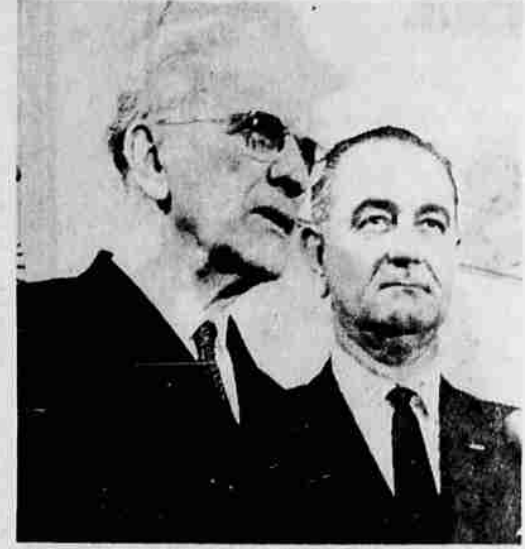


# McCormack Shocked by Suggestions That He Retire As Speaker



HE WOULD SUCCEED—This is a 1963 photo of President Lyndon B. Johnson and House Speaker John McCormack, R-Mass., who would become president under the present law if anything should happen to President Johnson. A new House speaker would be elected to be next in line of succession. (UPI)

By FRANK ELEAZER  
United Press International  
WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sen. Carl Hayden, 86, president pro tem of the Senate and a fixture on Capitol Hill for almost 52 years, can quit worrying about the possibility he could be asked

## Slain Policeman's Widow Injured

PARIS, Tex. (UPI) — Mrs. J. D. Tippit, whose husband was killed by President Kennedy's accused assassin, was injured Wednesday during a Christmas trip to visit her husband's family.

She received a small cut and a bruise on her head when the car she was driving collided with another car as she was turning into a service station.

Police Sgt. Steve Dockery said Mrs. Tippit required a stitch for her head wound, but that her three children were not hurt in the accident.

The driver of the other car, 22-year-old Delbert Miller of Paris, was uninjured in the wreck.

Mrs. Tippit and her children were driving to Clarksville, Tex. to visit the Edgar Tippits, her slain husband's parents.

Dockery said about \$400 damage was done to the Tippit car, and that \$50 damage was done to the Miller vehicle. He said Mrs. Tippit's father-in-law drove from Clarksville and took the family to his home. Dockery said the accident was still under investigation.

## Court Records

MEDFORD MUNICIPAL COURT  
Gary Edson Branson, failure to yield right of way, \$25, suspended to attend driver improvement school.  
Dennis Noble Chandler, violation of basic rule, \$25, suspended (DIS).  
Larry Ross Cheatum, violation of basic rule, \$25, suspended (DIS).  
William Michael Cox, violation of basic rule, \$10, suspended (DIS).  
Fred James Foust, violation of basic rule, \$10, suspended (DIS).  
Gwendolyn Jackson, violation of basic rule, \$25, suspended (DIS).  
Sue Eileen Kays, violation of basic rule, \$25, suspended (DIS).  
Stephen George Lewis, violation of basic rule, \$10, suspended (DIS).  
Sten Arne Lovengborg, violation of basic rule, \$25, suspended (DIS).  
Michael Leonard Mayfield, no operator's license, \$5, suspended, work in park.  
Rose Louis Montag, improper left turn, \$10.  
David Lee Mitchell, failure to obtain Oregon operator's license, \$25.  
Gary Arthur Niedermeyer, violation of basic rule, \$10, suspended (DIS).  
Orvie Glendon Pettijohn, improper left turn, \$10.  
Mary Ellen Plankenhorn, expired operator's license, \$5.  
John Michael Peter Snyder, disobeys traffic signal, \$10, suspended (DIS).  
Virginia Lynn Tretter, violation of basic rule, \$25, suspended (DIS).  
Wayne Nebraska Truxell, disobeys traffic signal, \$10.  
Mary Kathryn Wain, violation of basic rule, \$10.  
Lennie Rex Walters, violation of basic rule, \$50, suspended (DIS).  
Uraa Robinson Weston, disobeys traffic signal, \$10, suspended, work in park.  
Victor Don Wigginton, improper lane usage and speeding, \$10, suspended (DIS).  
John Earl Yonker, violation of basic rule, \$10, suspended (DIS).

Truman Objects  
Mr. Truman said the old law in effect gave him the right to pick his potential successor, since the cabinet appointments were his, and that he did not think this was right.  
"I do not believe that in a democracy this power should rest with the chief executive," he told Congress then.  
As for the choice between the speaker and the Senate's top elected official, Mr. Truman disappointed some Senators when he failed to suggest that the president pro tem be re-

stored to the top of the list.  
Mr. Truman's answer to this was that House members are closer to the people, being elected every two years, and that anyway there was a better chance that the House would normally be of the same political faith as the President.  
The election of a Republican 80th Congress displeased him mightily. But it didn't change his mind about the need for a new succession law of the kind he had asked for, even though now Republican Speaker Joseph W. Martin, Jr., would be his

potential replacement instead of Democratic Speaker Sam Rayburn.  
Congress Acts  
The 80th Congress, unlike the 79th, gave Mr. Truman what he wanted.  
Now some members of Congress, and some editors and other observers, are not so sure the lawmakers did the right thing. Sen. Hugh Scott, R-Pa., has proposed that Congress re-study the problem. A couple of newspapers have suggested editorially that McCormack is too old to be President and ought

to let the House elect a younger speaker, just in case something happens to Johnson.  
Everybody has recalled that Mr. Johnson once nearly died of a heart attack. However his doctors now say he whipped that completely and is in perfect health.  
Mr. Johnson and McCormack, just in case, have agreed on procedure that McCormack would follow in event the President became temporarily disabled. It is the same procedure set up by President Eisenhower and his vice president,

Richard M. Nixon, after Mr. Eisenhower suffered a bad heart attack. Presidents Kennedy and Johnson had also accepted the plan.  
The agreement calls for McCormack in some circumstances to make a finding that Mr. Johnson was unable to function, and to step in as acting president until the President declared himself able again.  
The agreement, although better than nothing, raises questions not about succession but about presidential inability which the Congress frequently

has tried unsuccessfully to answer.  
One thing is clear. If McCormack ever took office as acting president, as provided by law, he would have to quit Congress. Then if Mr. Johnson were restored to health and reclaimed his office, McCormack would be out in the cold.  
McCormack, of course, isn't concerned about this.  
He is considerably grieved that anyone would suggest that under these or any other circumstances he might want to get out from under the load.

So can all the younger Cabinet members who stand behind Hayden in the long presidential line of succession set up in its wisdom by Congress in 1947, when President Harry S. Truman felt uneasy without a publicly elected backup man in the vacant vice president's spot.  
The fact is that if Lyndon B. Johnson should die or become disabled between now and the end of the term he is filling out for the slain President Kennedy, the job would fall to the speaker of the House, currently Rep. John W. McCormack, D-Mass.  
Under no likely set of circumstances could it ever go further.

McCormack will be 72 on Dec. 21. He is shocked at suggestions he might, or should — as one New England paper proposed editorially — step aside from the No. 1 spot in the line of succession he now holds in accordance with the 1947 law.  
McCormack said two weeks ago he still supports the 1947 law, as he did when it was enacted, "not because I'm in it but because I feel it's the best way of solving the problem."  
A review of the succession law is a matter for Congress to explore if it wishes, he said, but "I don't want to pursue the matter further because it concerns a thought that I don't even want to entertain."  
If anything should happen to Johnson, McCormack stands ready to take over the presidency. He already is being briefed, as would a new vice president, on the awesome burdens that could fall to him.  
But suppose he should succeed Johnson and himself fall by the wayside before the end of the current presidential term? Would not the presidency then go to Hayden, or the secretary of state, or some other official on down the line?  
No, it would not.  
By that time the House would have elected a new speaker, and he would be first in the new line of succession.  
It was Mr. Truman himself, an old Senate man, who suggested this House-oriented approach to the problem of assuring an orderly continuation of government if both president and vice president died or became unable to serve.  
From 1792 to 1806 the Senate president pro tempore had stood No. 1 in the line of succession. In 1806 the law was changed to put the Secretary of State on top of the list, with other cabinet members standing behind him in order of rank.  
When Mr. Truman succeeded the late president Franklin D. Roosevelt, he faced more than three years in office with no vice president and no other elected official to serve at his side. Among his first acts was to ask the Democratic 79th Congress to change this: to put the speaker at the top of the succession list with the Senate president pro tem as the No. 2 man.

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**STAR GAZER**  
By CLAY R. POLLAN

Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars

To develop message for Friday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

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Taurus	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Gemini	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
Cancer	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
Leo	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
Virgo	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
Libra	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84
Scorpio	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96
Sagittarius	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108
Capricorn	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
Aquarius	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132
Pisces	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144

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**Cake Mixes**  
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13-oz. pkg. **19¢**

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