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Line of Succession.

13 We hope Congress will act promptly on President Truman's request for legislation making the Speaker of the House next in line of succession to the Presidency.

Such a bill was introduced by Rep. Mike Monroney, following a suggestion for its need by James A. Farley and shortly after this need was highlighted by Mr. Roosevelt's death, which placed Mr. Truman in the White House and left the Vice Presidency vacant.

We agree with the President that the present law—running the line of succession to the Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury and on down the Cabinet—is unsound. For a Cabinet officer is chosen by one man. How repugnant the idea of one-man rule is to Mr. Truman is revealed in his statement that in a democracy the Chief Executive should not have the power to choose his successor.

The Speaker of the House is the official in our government "whose selection next to that of the President and Vice President can be most accurately said to stem from the people themselves."