

# McKeldin Given Gold-Plated Telephone On 56th Birthday

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Annapolis, Nov. 29 (AP)—Governor McKeldin received a gold-plated telephone on his fifty-sixth birthday today, joined in singing "happy birthday" to himself at an office party and ate ice cream and cake with office workers.

Tonight friends and associates planned a dinner for him at the Executive Mansion with about 100 guests expected.

The Governor arrived for the birthday festivities after spending most of the day in the Baltimore office going over the State budget to be presented to the Legislature in January.

## "Wherever You Wish"

Waiting for him were officials of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company with a gold-plated telephone for his desk—the one millionth phone to be installed in Maryland. The first was installed in Baltimore in 1878.

It was presented to the Governor by James B. Morrison, of Washington, president of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Companies, and W. Griffin Morrel, vice president of the



GOVERNOR McKELDIN  
At 56, a gold-plated telephone.

Chesapeake and Potomac, of Maryland.

"Is this for me or for the State?" McKeldin asked as he admired the shiny new instrument.

"For you, Governor," replied

Morrel. "You can take it wherever you wish."

"Wonderful!" beamed McKeldin. "I'll take it with me when I leave here in two years."

An installation man was waiting to connect it at the Governor's desk but agreed to wait until tomorrow so McKeldin could show it to friends at his party tonight.

The Maryland seal is on each side of the phone and on the dial is a Baltimore Oriole, the State bird; and the black-eyed Susan, the State flower. An inscription to McKeldin on the base denotes

it is the one millionth in Maryland.

Morrel remarked it was "even nicer than the one given President Eisenhower."

After the telephone ceremony McKeldin went to an office party across the hall in the Secretary of State's office. In the singing of "Happy Birthday, dear Governor," he led the way.

Office employes were waiting with a huge cake in the shape of a brightly decorated clover leaf. McKeldin decided to cut a smaller one and give the big cake to an orphan's home.