

RFK URGES PASSAGE OF CIVIL RIGHTS PACKAGE

Atty. Gen. Says Legislation Can Halt Oppression

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WASHINGTON — (UPI) — Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy told a senate committee Thursday that in two southern communities a Negro can find overnight accommodations in only one listed place but a white man's dog is welcomed in nine.

Kennedy cited the situations in Montgomery, Ala., and Danville, Va., as he urged Congress to pass the administration's civil rights program "to bring to law what we have always known in our hearts to be justice."

The President's brother, appearing before the Senate judiciary committee, also questioned those who oppose the program on grounds of state's rights.

SEEKING TO EXPLOIT

"Those who preach most frequently about states rights today are not seeking the protection of the individual citizen but his exploitation," the attorney general said.

Another cabinet member, Labor Secretary W. Willard Wirtz, told the Senate Commerce Committee that he favored a proposal by Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz, which would deny federal certification to any labor union practicing racial discrimination.

"I believe in doing all things necessary to prevent discrimination in labor unions," Wirtz said.

Kennedy, in pinpointing racial barriers that face Negroes, said that tourist guidebooks list only one establishment with overnight accommodations for Negroes in Montgomery and none in Danville, where racial demonstrations have occurred.

DOGS WELCOME

"But a dog, provided he is traveling with a white man, is welcome to spend the night in at least five establishments in Montgomery and four in Danville," Kennedy asserted.

This was the attorney general's third appearance before a congressional committee studying his brother's civil rights proposals.

He showed up to testify at the Judiciary Committee two days ago, but had his appearance postponed until Thursday.

Speaking before a standing room only audience, Kennedy said the President's civil rights package is not a "cure all" for the racial problems that face the nation. But he said the legislation "can and will do more toward righting the wrongs of racial oppression than any other measure possible at this time."