Kennedy's 3 Years in Office of Attorney General

By ANTHONY LEWIS
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WASHINGTON, Sept. 3 — It is hard to imagine Attorney General

When he became Attorney General in 1961, he was criti-

of him as tough and ruthless, creating an impression that has persisted, observers from his brother James Hoffa.

Mr. Kennedy was quite ac-

Hoffa was a menace.

After he became Attorney General, the Justice Department

Attacked by Unions

Teamsters has charged Kennedy and all other men in Washington who took part in the Department's campaign against him with using illegal wiretapping and bugging devices in an investigation of the Department, methods Mr. Kennedy and his

Differed With Hoover

Mr. Kennedy's differences with J. Edgar Hoover, head of the F.B.I., were not

Mr. Kennedy

Assistants Praised

Students of Mr. Kennedy's career confirm, however, that he has done much already. Some Justice Department heads have attracted headlines but little importance to the

Those dealing professionally with the department point out, for example, that he's attracting men as

Among those are Mr. Katzenbach, the Solicitor Archibald Cox, and Assistant Attorneys General Burke Marshall, Herbert J. Miller Jr., Louis Oberdorfer and John Douglas.

All but two of Mr. Kennedy's original top appointees are gone. Byron White, Mr. Kennedy's first deputy, went to the Supreme Court. Lee Loevinger moved from the Antitrust Division to the Federal Communications Commission.

The adjective most often used to describe Robert Kennedy is ruthless. Many people think

Whatever ability Mr. Kenne-

G.O.P. Will Not Fight Kennedy Race in Court

Basis of decision by official said yesterday

Antitrust Work Lagged

One problem was that Mr. Kennedy's first studies in depth

No survey of the Attorney General would be complete with-

at the 1962 election.

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But he found he could not

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