

STATE, DEFENSE SATISFIED 3-1 1-25-69

'Conglomeration' of Jurors Accepted for Sirhan Panel

LOS ANGELES (AP)—People from many walks of life make up the jury for Sirhan Bishara Sirhan's trial on a charge of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Is that good? Chief defense attorney Grant B. Cooper was asked that yesterday by newsmen after defense and prosecution agreed on eight men and four women.

"YES, I wouldn't know what particular type of juror to choose in this case. So the next best thing is to try to get a conglomeration," Cooper said.

Deputy Dist. Atty. David N. Fitts said he, too, was pleased with the jurors: "They look all right to me."

Both prosecution and defense accepted the jury yesterday, the ninth day of jury selection.

The jurors, all from Los Angeles or its suburbs, include a plumber, a truck driver's wife, a high school math teacher, two computer systems analysts, five employees of utility firms, a mechanic and a clothier.

SIRHAN'S mother, Mary, 55, who has watched the trial daily from a back row in the heavily guarded courtroom, said: "They are nice people . . . I am satisfied."

Judge Herbert V. Walker recessed proceedings until Wednesday, when the defense will present evidence to support its motion to quash the Los Angeles County grand jury's indictment against Sirhan. Defense lawyers contend the grand jury did not represent a cross-section of

the community because, they say, it excludes persons of some occupations.

Judge Walker excused the trial jurors until Thursday, but he and attorneys indicated testimony won't start until a few days after that. The judge told prospective jurors earlier the trial may last "three or more months."

SIX ALTERNATE jurors must be chosen before testimony starts.

Sirhan, a slim, 24-year-old Jordanian, is accused of fatally shooting Kennedy early last June 5 just after the New York senator won in California's Democratic presidential primary election.