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The Kennedys and the ADA

Washington

The Kennedys are stepping up their courtship of the liberal Americans for Democratic Action.

The ADA announced that Senator Robert F. Kennedy (Dem-N.Y.) would speak at its Roosevelt Day dinner in Philadelphia January 28 and that Senator Edward M. Kennedy (Dem-Mass.) would speak at the Boston Roosevelt Day dinner March 4.

The speaking assignment at the third of the major ADA dinners, the one in New York, went to historian Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., a former White House aide and

biographer of President Kennedy.

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, an ADA founder, is not listed as a speaker at the ADA dinners. Leon Shull, the national director of the organization, said Humphrey was unable to accept an invitation from the St. Louis chapter. A Humphrey aide said there was no record of such an invitation.

Shull said, however, that Humphrey was expected to attend the 20th anniversary convention of the organization in Washington next April.

Humphrey spoke at last

spring's ADA convention and defended the administration policy on Vietnam. He was warmly received, but the convention rejected his views and adopted a policy statement condemning "the continuing escalation by the United States of the Vietnam military conflict."

Robert Kennedy, whose relations with the ADA had been distinctly cool, spoke at last year's New York ADA dinner. The Philadelphia appearance he accepted is the same forum that John Kennedy occupied in 1959, the year before his campaign for the presidency.

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