Abdalla's is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Founded in 1895 by the late George Abdalla as a small clothing store in Opelousas, the firm has grown to include four large modern department stores — two in Lafayette, one in New Iberia and one in Opelousas.

Still a family business, Abdalla's in Lafayette is run by Edward E. Abdalla, president, and Herbert H. Abdalla, executive vice president, both sons of the founder. Also included in management are wives, sons and daughters of the Abdalla brothers.

Abdalla's in Opelousas was a very small enterprise at first, carrying only a limited amount of merchandise. As the community grew, so did Abdalla's. In 1932, the Abdallas decided to branch out and the Lafayette store was opened that year. In 1934 the New Iberia store was opened.

Edward E. Abdalla came to Lafayette to manage the store. Under his leadership, the Jefferson Street Store has been enlarged five times and is presently being remodelled to provide the best possible service to Lafayette.

Herbert H. Abdalla joined his brother in the Lafayette store in 1939, after serving an apprenticeship at the mother store in Opelousas.

In 1965 the Abdallas decided that more than one store was needed in Lafayette. They announced that a second store would be built in the Oil Center. The Oil Center Abdalla's, billed as "the finest fashion center between Houston and New Orleans," opened its doors to the public in 1967.

The Abdallas have planned a rousing celebration of the anniversary, with special sales in all four stores. Customers will be given anniversary coins commemorating the occasion, which bear the likeness of the founder. Each of these coins carries a number, which may win its holder anyone of many various prizes.

The anniversary celebration will begin tomorrow.