COULD MEAN MILLIONS
Acadiana Neuf
OKs Programs

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Thousands of dollars will be channeled into the Lafayette area this summer if Washington gives approval to several requests announced yesterday by the board of Acadiana Neuf, the local war on poverty office.

The group gave approval to two summer remedial reading programs in Sunset and Opelousas; a year-round remedial reading program for St. Martin Parish; and announced that approval from Washington was expected any time on two “Operation Head Start” programs this summer for pre-school children in St. Martin and St. Landry Parishes.

The Acadiana Neuf directors also took under study the opening of a Small Business Loan office in Lafayette.

Gordain Shible, director of Acadian Neuf, said the program in George Washington Carver High School in Sunset would serve as a pilot project for the area. Actually, he said several years ago the principal of the school had offered a similar remedial program to students, but discontinued it two years ago because teachers many families. “As a result, mothers and children have had to go out and get employment. As a result, the average child is getting six months instruction,” he said.

“However, when the summer program was in operation, the daily attendance totaled 35 per cent of those registered. This is easy to understand, since the crop is laid idle during these months,” he added.

The school has requested the program for this summer through its representative on the board. The St. Landry School Board has granted permission for the use of the utilities and facilities. The program will cost $61,999, with the parish providing $18,052, mostly in the use of the buildings, utilities, and volunteer services.

In Opelousas, Holy Ghost Catholic School, which conducts religion classes during the summer, asked to add remedial reading to its agenda. Shible said federal officials said this could be done, as those attending the reading program would not necessarily have to remain for the religion instruction.

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