Acadians Get Area Projects

BY COOPERATION

Acadians, both as individuals and through agency work, are cooperating in many area projects and programs as never before, according to Lloyd A. Girouard, president of the Acadiana Regional Development District.

"The above number of these development projects, with our own projects, is doubling with each passing month," he stated.

Girouard cited specific and recent examples of the development activities of the RADD in the district — both those sponsored by the agency and those being sponsored by other state and local agencies or businesses and municipalities, the new Acadiana Travel Center near Lafayette that opened on May 4th, the Martin Mills plant with new orders confirmation just outside Thibodaux which will be completed in 1962, and the two new plants, an apparel and a carpet mill. A Separates plant in Youngsville opened an open house on May 8th.

Other News

Other news included the recent trade sales visit by state health administrators in preparation for opening sections of the eight parish districts and a new business assistance program — the Public Service Commission Program — designed to help the underprivileged in the parishes.

Among the planning activities involving several agencies and facilities, he mentioned the recent Vermilion Parish plan created by LSU's fourth year architecture students. Included among these plans was the future comprehensive development of Greater Acadiana, to be built in Tigue which lies along the east of Vermilion Parish.

Proposed projects including a new industrial water system for the Town of Port Barre and a free -sheet paper mill for the Acadiana National Airport and Industrial Park located in Thibodaux Parish are "on the drawing board," according to Girouard. "With a little luck and a lot of continued cooperative work, these projects are bound to become a reality and reduce our efforts to bring new plants and jobs to Acadians."

Example cited

Girouard cited the project factory as an example of how the "complete effort of Acadians are really beginning to pay off."

Multi - parish cooperation resulted in a meeting of representatives to Governor Mc Kinley's office in May 6th to discuss state participation in the program.

"The Governor endorsed our collective ideas on the matter," Girouard said and "as a direct result will be our formal appeal to both the state and federal government for assistance of funds to help the state and federal agencies to be represented through the RADD."

"Assuming that all of these efforts are pursued and enforced, we are not only assured of aid but we are assured of steady progress in the furtherance of Acadian economic development," Girouard said.

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