Program of Codofil

Bilingualism Is Stressed

Louisiana could become a leader of the United States in the world movement towards bilingualism according to Philippe Rossillon, a member of the French Prime Minister’s staff.

Two years ago, with the backing of the French government and the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana, a program was initiated in Louisiana schools to promote bilingualism in the state.

Seven Teachers

Lafayette Parish, with a strong Codofil organization and a large contingent of French-speaking natives, has seven teachers this year in the program.

Rossillon, an adviser to the French government on matters pertaining to the preservation and expansion of the French language, visited Lafayette last week to see how the program is progressing. He said that he was impressed with steps already taken, but, “We are just starting.”

Help Growth

Rossillon’s visit coincided with the arrival of 18 teachers from France who will help the program’s growth throughout the state. Louisiana now has 48 teachers from France involved in the program.

“I am impressed with the program,” Rossillon said, “We are just starting, but I see quite a lot of progress.” He hopes that more school boards throughout the state will request French teachers.

Rossillon believes that the program will receive even more support from both the French government and the people of Louisiana than it did when it was just started. Rossillon’s visit coincided with the arrival of 18 teachers from France who will help the program’s growth throughout the state. Louisiana now has 48 teachers from France involved in the program.

“I am very confident of the future of bilingualism in Louisiana,” Rossillon said.