Broussard Aided By Highway 90

BROUSSARD — When a new highway was built, up-popping on the rural areas, there is usually a need and cry from the citizens pointing that they live on the outskirts. But not the case with Broussard.

When Highway 90 first was constructed, it completely changed Broussard. Today, the north and south of the town is very well connected. The residents are satisfied and reap the benefits.

Willis M. Drury, mayor of Broussard, in his third term, said the new highway has done more to increase the town's name and population growth than any single event in its history.

"Let's face the facts," he said. "Look at the new commercial establishments that have been built along the highway, and you will know that this is the case." Naturally, the people want to be near their work and this helps.

Broussard has an efficient fire department, composed of 56 members who man two trucks. For police protection, there is a marshal who is on duty 24 hours a day.

The town has public schools of both white and Negro students, and there is also a parochial school for white students. Catholic and a Baptist church, both with modern buildings, serve the religious needs of the community.

The town has a large public park and a newly erected dental plant that adds to the appraisal income. Also, a large number of new houses have been built in recent years, showing a steady increase in real estate values. The mayor, however, doesn't think too much about the town's growth. He finds it his main selling point.

"You will find that the people of Broussard are the friendliest in the world," he said. There's no such thing as a stranger here. The people will do anything to help someone a trouble and that's a mighty reassuring thing to know when you live here. Anyone visiting here will find that out.

"We have nothing big and fancy," Mayor Drury says, "but our service is the same to everyone. There's something going on here all the time. It keeps me awake.

Since 1950, the town has enjoyed the activities of four all-club teams as they compete with teams from larger areas. Broussard also has its own university, because of the high school each year.

Mayor Drury, who will be up for election again in April, has 32 years in office and is not his original form. "I'll run again," he says. "I wouldn't like to see what we started out with."