Third Statewide Meeting Ends Saturday

Third Statewide Meeting

CODOFIL EVENT HELD IN EUNICE

ENDS SATURDAY

Third annual statewide meeting of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL) moves into its final day Saturday with an estimated 600 persons expected to attend the convention.

Some 300 persons attended first day activities, which included registration, orientation and a “soiree,” a French type social, which is essentially a cocktail party.

Following the soirees crowds roamed about the Eunice Mall listening to the French language music of two Cajun bands.

Speeches and panel discussion are set for Saturday and will be centered around Louisiana’s French Renaissance — the statewide movement to preserve and expand Louisiana’s French culture and language.

Saturday’s activities will be held on the campus of Louisiana State University at Eunice.

Symposia through the day will deal with French education, culture and heritage. Groups will discuss international student and teacher exchanges that took place this past summer between Louisiana and France, Quebec and Guadaloupe. General plans for continuing such programs will be discussed.

One panel will talk about the necessity to offer French education at all levels in Louisiana schools. Another will explore new techniques in French instruction.

At 9:30 p.m. James Domengeaux, CODOFIL chairman, is scheduled to give the chairman’s address, reporting on the progress and projecting the future of the French movement.

The Saturday luncheon will be emceed by Paul Tate, Mamou attorney, who is an internationally known authority on Acadian folklore.

The final banquet, which is set for 7 p.m. in the Eunice High School cafeteria, will feature guest speaker Sen. Mike Gravel of Alaska. He is a promoter of bilingualism in the United States, and is expected to deliver his speech in both French and English. He is scheduled to arrive in Eunice Saturday.

The public is invited to attend the convention.