CODOFIL Spending Cited

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — The legislative auditor today reminded officials of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana that funds appropriated by the legislature for scholarships are to be used for that purpose alone.

Auditor J. H. Burris said an examination of CODOFIL's books for the three years ended June 30, 1972 showed $7,979.23 of the $60,000 appropriated for scholarship money was used for other purposes.

"Funds dedicated by the legislature to a specific purpose should not be spent for any other purposes," the auditor observed.

CODOFIL, among other things, sponsors study by Louisiana residents in France and Canada and schooling by persons of French descent in Louisiana.

Burris told The Advertiser this morning that the scholarship monies were included in CODOFIL's general operating fund, and that he "apparently can't identify specifically what other purposes that particular sum of money was spent for."

He also said there is "no indication that criminal violations were involved" in the misused money. He did not make recommendations in the audit report for correcting CODOFIL's error, he said, because "enforcement is not in my province."

CODOFIL director James Domengeaux of Lafayette said he had not seen the auditor's report and that he would make no comment until he has.

"Right now, I just don't know what he's talking about. When I see the report I will make the necessary adjustments, if they are justified," Domengeaux said.