Cajun Folk Stage Petit Dejeuner de Boucherie

French Acadian Families Attend Event

Baton Rouge, La. (AP) -- The Therios, Leblancs, Fontenots, Vidrines and others of French Acadian background gathered Monday for an old-fashioned Cajun breakfast, the petit dejeuner de boucherie. It was the usual happy affair for the easy-going Cajun.

One of the main dishes was bouillabaisse -- "blood sausage" -- and the descendants of the pioneer French who migrated from Nova Scotia to South Louisiana ate with a hearty appetite.

Government officials from France, Canada and South Africa were among the crowd of more than 400 who attended.

Sister Edith, a nun of the Carmelite Order, entertained the audience with five French songs. Happy Pats and his three-piece band played Cajun music.

The menu consisted of the best of Acadian foods -- pain de maire, fromage de tete de cochon, couche-couche, boudin, slirop, saucisses fumees, granolons, patates douches frites and cafe au lait.

Servers wore Acadian attire typical of the pioneer days.

Main speaker was E. A. Cote, deputy minister of Canada's Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

After a brief talk in French, he spoke of the "great cultural privilege to share in Cajun and Acadian traditions."

"We are both of the same stock, we have much to look back upon. We have much to look forward to," he said.

The breakfast is an annual event staged by Roy Theriot, state comptroller, in an effort to preserve the Acadian heritage.

Crowned as king and queen of the occasion were Sen. Austin Fontenot, Opelousas, and Mrs. Jackie Vidrine, Ville Platte.

Guests included M. and Mme. Jean M. Pettinelli, cultural attaché of France; Pierre Mathinet, consul general of France; E. Roekhuyzen, vice-consul of South Africa, and W. W. Campbell, consul of Canada.