Envoys Of France To Visit Acadiana

The visit to Louisiana by the new Ambassador of France to Washington, Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet, comes at a time when the French Government is going all out in its assistance to the state’s efforts to preserve, develop and expand the French language.

“We are indeed indebted to France for the encouragement that it has generously given us in many ways but especially in the sending of 160 early-school teachers of French who arrived in our state just last month,” James Domengeaux, chairman of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL), said. “This help is essential until Louisiana has produced a sufficient amount of certified teachers for the elementary grades.”

Louisiana will have to stand on its own two feet in the near future, Domengeaux said. But at this stage, the state needed assistance from the other areas of the world which have responded wholeheartedly to our request for aid. This was particularly true of France.

Domengeaux hailed the appointment of Ambassador Kosciusko-Morizet as a valuable asset to the United States and said it is an honor for Louisiana that the newly-named ambassador came to this area so soon after taking office.

Lafayette Arrival

The ambassador and his party is scheduled to arrive at the Lafayette Airport at 12:30 p.m. tomorrow following a visit with Gov. Edwin Edwards in Baton Rouge. A welcoming ceremony and a press conference have been arranged at the airport. From there the motorcade will stop at Thelma’s for lunch and...

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then on to Breaux Bridge at 3:00 p.m. to be received by Mayor Fred Mills and other officials at the Fire Station.

After meeting with the officials of Breaux Bridge the Ambassador will meet the citizens and speak to them in their native french as he walks through downtown Breaux Bridge. After a boat ride on Bayou Teche the Ambassador will arrive in St. Martinville at 5:00 p.m. for an official reception and tour of that area. He will again have an opportunity to speak with citizens and see for himself that French is still spoken in Acadiana.

Domingeaux urged the citizens of the Lafayette, Breaux Bridge and St. Martinville areas to welcome the Ambassador and his group while visiting these respective communities.

Banquet Planned

At 7:30 p.m. tomorrow, a banquet for the Ambassador and his official party will be held at Jacob’s Restaurant.

Accompanying the Ambassador will be Mrs. Kosciusko-Morizet, Adm. and Mrs. Andre Gelineau, Conseiller Culturel Jean Donnard and Mrs. Donnard, Consul General to New Orleans, Jean-Jacques Peyronnet and Cultural Attache Jean Pettinelli and Mrs. Pettinelli.

Kosciusko-Horizet, a professor, jurist and diplomat, succeeds Charles Lucet as ambassador to the United States. Lucet has visited Louisiana in the past and has proven to be a great friend and ad-vocate of the renaissance of the French language of this state.

War Record

The new ambassador has an enviable war record. He was taken prisoner at the Battle of Dunkirk and remained captured for seven months when he escaped and became prominent as a leader of the Resistance. He was given the Croix de Guerre and the Medal of the Resistance. He has a brilliant teaching background at Grenoble, France, Columbia University and other leading universities.

He became the chief adviser to former President of France Vincent Auriol, for a seven year period. He represented France at the United Nations and undertook many missions in the early development of the United Nations. He served as the permanent representative of France to the North Atlantic Councils.