FRENCH TEACHERS — In a special French class being offered this summer at the University of Southwestern Louisiana through University College, certified elementary school teachers and teacher aides are being provided special French instruction. Those in the class are seated left, Gustavia N. Perkins; Lois D. Breaux; Alice R. F. LeBlanc; Haidee Redlich Odom; Evelyn Gary Barras; and Mae F. Martin. In second row, from left, Merleen G. Hebert; Dr. Gerard St. Martin, USL associate professor; Ann Pearl D. Hull; Hilda C. Bernard; Billie G. Aucoin; Rose Faye Girouard; Theodora A. Vincent; Renee Bullock; Pearl A. Menard; Henrietta B. Patin; and Lynette T. Chadeayne.

French Class Is Taught

Eighteen teachers and teacher aides, chiefly from the Alice Boucher School in Lafayette, are enrolled this summer through University College at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in a special French class.

"This class is aimed at developing and formalizing the native French speaking ability of certified elementary school teachers and teacher aides," Dr. Richard E. Chandler, USL professor and head, department of foreign languages said. "In these French speaking teachers Louisiana possesses a rich natural resource which needs only to be developed to become a rich educational tool for the teaching of French in the elementary grades. Non-native speakers of French with some previous knowledge of the language may also profit from this instruction.

"Right Direction"

"The work we are doing this summer in this class is a step in the right direction. This French training program has been made possible largely through the efforts of Dr. Ruth Bradley and the Lafayette Bilingual Program.

"The Council for the Development of French in Louisiana has done much to kindle interest in and preserve the French language and heritage of Louisiana. This USL program is one of the ways in which USL can support CODOFIL's program to expand French instruction in the elementary grades of Louisiana schools."

The special French class, French 122, is being taught by Dr. Gerard St. Martin, USL associate professor of French.

High in Praise

Members of the class were high in their praise of his methods, which they said were not like regular language courses.

"We have really been taught a lot by St. Martin," a spokesman for the class, said. "His motivation has been good, useful and practical. His methods can be used in our classes. We can see now where we are going."

Mrs. Rose Girouard, Lafayette, said. "I was born and reared in this area but did not know enough French to teach it. With this course and the French 121 course taken last semester, I feel now that I can teach it."

"Their progress is fantastic," St. Martin said of the members of his class. "We look on this program as a very successful undertaking and we look forward to continuing it for teachers in Louisiana."