French Congress Begins
This Morning In Lafayette

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and the French language in
Louisiana.

Panel Discussion
At 3 p.m. today a panel
discussion of the speech and
culture in French Louisiana was
scheduled to be held, with LSU
chancellor Cecil Taylor
presiding. At 4 p.m. the agenda
included a discussion of the
impact of Louisiana French in
international commerce under
the direction of Dr. Bernard
Bienvenu, professor of
marketing at USL.

During today's session
musical interludes were
provided by the Dusenberry
Family Singers of Houma and
the Coulee Croche Elementary
School of St. Landry Parish.

Tomorrow's agenda includes a
10 a.m. discussion of the
influence of French culture in
the world, and a discussion of the
French language and the multi-
national community set for
10:30 a.m.

French Dimension
The afternoon sessions
tomorrow will include
discussions of the French
dimension in America and the
French language as a means
of understanding among people.
Special guests and dignitaries
in tomorrow's sessions include
Sen. Jacques Habert of the
French National Assembly,
Louisiana Sen.-Elect James
Fontenot of Vermilion Parish;
Jean-Louis Gagnon, director
general of Information Canada,
and panelists from Belgium,
Canada, France, Guadeloupe,
Haiti, Martinique, and from the
African continent.

Public Invited
The public is invited to attend
all sessions at Angelle Hall.
Social events, for which a
charge will be assessed, will
include a crawfish boil at the
municipal auditorium at 7 p.m.
today and the Congress' closing
banquet that will feature a
French language address by Gov.-
Elect Edwin Edwards. The governor's
address will be at 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday at the municipal
auditorium.

A French Negro traditional
blues band will perform during
the crawfish boil this evening.
Reservations for the social
events may be made by calling
the CODOFIL office, 233-1020 in
Lafayette.

Delegates arriving
in Lafayette today will probably
notice some of 1,000 French
language posters placed in area
businesses recently.

Preserve Language
The signs, put up by workers
of the Council for the
Development of French in
Louisiana (CODOFIL), urge South
Louisianians to preserve the
language of their Acadian French
ancestors.

The convention and other
CODOFIL activities, including the
sign-placing, are aimed at
"convincing the French
speaking world that Louisiana is
serious" in her efforts to
preserve the French culture in
this state, Domengeaux said.

Distribute Posters
CODOFIL workers spent the
last two weeks distributing the
French language posters to
business establishments in
several communities in southern
and Southwestern Louisiana,
including Lafayette, St.
Martinville, Breaux Bridge,
Abbeville, Crowley, New Iberia,
Opelousas, Eunice, Mamou,
Church Point, and Henderson.

Translated, some of the signs
read: "Speak French. It's
money in your pocket. "The
schools should teach French."
"Help your children to speak
French." "Be in style. Speak
French." "Be proud to speak
French," and "French, now or
never."

One Of Welcome
A few storekeepers refused to
allow the placing of the signs
in their establishments, workers
reported, but response, on the
whole, has been "one of
welcome."

Storekeepers said bilingualism
made for good business and
good customer relations.

The posters will remain after
the Congress ends Wednesday
to remind Louisianians of the
importance of bilingualism in
this state.

Savez Vous?

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word from Baton Rouge last
week when Charles Roemer
announced that administration
of the Code of Ethics for state
officials and employees will be
"tightened up."

Roemer, who is now chairman
of the State Ethics Commission
and who will be commissioner
of administration under Gov.
Edwin Edwards, said the
Edward administration has no
plans to revise the Code of
Ethics but will take a "hard-
line stand on ethics viola-
tions."

The Code of Ethics bill was
among the major accomplish-
ments of the McKeithen ad-
ministration but there has been
and continues to be suspicion
that firm application has been
lacking.

LAME DUCKERY

Two incidents last week point
up the fallacy of waiting more
than three months after election
to install the winners.

First, Rep. Robert Munson of
Cheneyville said he checked
into a meeting of the Constitu-
tional Revision Commission and
then left to attend a meeting of the
Legislative Budget Committee
"to give the revision com-
mision a quorum."

Then Sen. Claude Duval of
Houma opened a meeting of his
Senate Rules Committee with
only three colleagues in
attendance, far short of a quorum.

He waved off protests that no
business could be conducted be-
cause of lack of a quorum and
insisted on proceeding because
"I'm not going to spend the
state's money for no reason."

Keeping lame ducks for three
months is unreasonable and
costly.

Dean Stone

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will be responsible for adult and
continuing education, drug
education, veterans education,
desegregation problems and re-
lated federal programs, and
liaison with State and local
agencies concerning community
problems.