French Consul General Banquet Set in Lafayette

LeCannellier Will Leave New Orleans Post

(Special to The Times-Picayune)

LAFAYETTE, La. — A Saturday night going-away banquet is planned in Lafayette for French Consul General Jean LeCannellier, who has served as the French government's chief diplomatic liaison with Southern states for the past three years.

LeCannellier, stationed in New Orleans since 1968, will be honored at the ceremony at Jacob's Restaurant beginning at 8 p.m. He is scheduled to leave his post in New Orleans on June 1 and will be reassigned to another position later.

In recounting LeCannellier's activities in Louisiana, James Domengeaux, chairman of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL), said, "Mr. Jean LeCannellier is one of Louisiana's best friends in its fight to preserve its French language and custom. It is he who acquainted his government with Louisiana's potential in this French renaissance.

"He has given whole-hearted cooperation to every reasonable request that CODOFIL has made in this effort to preserve the language. CODOFIL and the state of Louisiana express deep gratitude and appreciation to Mr. LeCannellier for this. He is our friend and we will always cherish his stay in Louisiana."

Leo LeBlanc, Quebec government representative permanently stationed in Lafayette, had this to say about the Frenchman who he worked with on various occasions: "The consul general of France was at the outset a prime mover in relations between his country and CODOFIL which culminated in the establishment of solid programs to further the cause which all Louisianians have at heart—that of a practical second language throughout the state. He also loved Louisiana..."