French Pupils Will Win Trips

Program Seeks to Promote Language Use

Eight Louisiana students who display their mastery of French at district rallies April 4 will win five-week, all expense trips to Quebec this summer.

A joint announcement of details was made by William J. Dodd, State Superintendent of Education and James Domengeaux, chairman of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana.

The project seeks to encourage young people to participate in the language by providing them with a French environment with other bilingual students from Canada and France.

The eight winners will be enrolled at Jonquiere College, north of Quebec City for four weeks of conversational French followed by a one week tour of Quebec Province.

During the eight district literary rallies competition will be held in French I, II and III. Dodd and Domengeaux said the student who is the top performer in the highest level of the French competition at each of the rallies will win the $450 study tour to Quebec.

The district rallies on April 4 will be held at Northwestern State College, Louisiana College, Louisiana Tech, LSU-Eunice, LSU-New Orleans, McNeese State College, Nicholls State in announcing this program that encourages scholastic excellence in the French language.

The aim of the project is to help offset the erosion of the French language brought about in the last several decades by failure to encourage use of French in homes.

It is hoped that the project can be expanded to include trips to France by 1971.

“By 1975 the Council hopes to have 10,000 Louisiana students in every French-speaking country of the world participating in a wide range of study tours and other events that will relate vacation time to French learning periods,” Domengeaux said.

Details of the project can be obtained by writing to CODOFIL at P.O. Box 3936, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70501.

“Trend of the Competition”

Dodd said, “It is our feeling, here in the State Department of Education, that the awarding by the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana of all expense paid scholarships for a five weeks stay in Canada to the top performer at the highest level of French offered in each of the eight district high school rallies deserves an expression of commendation and thanks.

These scholarships will serve as a tangible reward for high academic achievement and will allow eight of our Louisiana French students to serve as ambassadors of the good will that exists between Canada and Louisiana.”

Domengeaux commented, the council “is happy to join in

College and Southwestern State
College.