French Teachers Begin Classes In Louisiana

School has officially begun and brought the arrival of 160 French teachers and their supervisors to begin teaching the French language to preschool, kindergarten, elementary and high school students in Acadiana.

Two of the 160 teachers were interviewed at the Advertiser last week along with their supervisor and a Frenchman who will be working with the CODOFIL office here.

Miss Brigitte LeSaint, who was born in Rennes in the western part of France, has been a teacher for five years. She was selected to teach at Alice Boucher School for one year after she filed an application with the Education Association Board in Paris. Miss LeSaint will teach math, social living, art, physical education and music to kindergarten and elementary students.

Bernard Treboute, who was born in Le Touquet in the north of France, will be a substitute teacher for two years in Baton Rouge. He had also filed an application with the Education Board and received a choice to either serve in the military or go abroad and teach. His teaching here in the states will fulfill his military obligations.

Working In Office

Jean Francois Cornier will work in the CODOFIL office for two years. He is a journalist and has worked for Combat, one of the leading newspapers in Paris, as a reviewer of political science books. Cornier also worked as a theatre reviewer for Les Nouvelles Litteraires, another leading newspaper in Paris.

Mrs. Irene Del Sol, who has been in the Lafayette area for two years, will serve as a supervisor and will travel throughout the Acadiana area visiting the schools where the French teachers will be teaching. Her husband is a representative of the French government and is also affiliated with CODOFIL here.

Those interviewed expressed how impressed they were with the “kindness and hospitality” shown them by the local people. They also stated that it was quite an opportunity to be here and learn the customs of others.