FRENCH TUTORS
HEADED FOR LA.

CODOFIL President Visits with Pompidou

PARIS (AP) — A Lafayette, La., lawyer announced Tuesday that the French government has agreed to send 160 young teachers to Louisiana to help the program for developing the French language in Louisiana.

James Domengeaux, president of the Council for Development of French in Louisiana—CODOFIL said during his three-week mission here he met with government officials, including President Georges Pompidou, who "showed an extraordinary sympathy" for the French-speaking movement in Louisiana.

Domengeaux said at a news conference that 1.3 million people in Louisiana—or one-third of the total population of the state—are bilingual.

"It is possible that the whole population will be bilingual in 20 years time," he said.

The lawyer said that the French cooperation services have agreed to send 160 teachers to Louisiana next September, thus multiplying nearly by four the present number of these assistants. They are young men doing their military service but sent on cultural cooperation missions in French-speaking countries all over the world.

The expenses for the mission will be paid by the state of Louisiana where legislators were said to unanimously have approved the budget outlay.

Domengeaux said he also discussed the preparation of pilot programs for the teaching of French, which the Louisiana state government has decided to undertake in 12 parishes.

He said the program for the

development of French was a way for the black people of Louisiana to assert their personality more quickly in the United States. He said that about a third of the black population of the state speaks French.

The CODOFIL program aims at developing cultural exchanges between the United States and France and other French-speaking countries, particularly Canada.

But when Domengeaux was asked whether Louisiana planned to open a permanent mission here—as Quebec Province did—he answered, "Politics is too complicated for us."

He said he meant that the French-speaking program in Louisiana was totally uninterested in separatism.

He said he had the "total support" of the federal government for the CODOFIL program.

This program, as presented in a press statement, is aimed at making Louisiana a "window of the United States on the French-speaking world" and to help develop relations between the French-speaking and English-speaking communities in the state.

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