Persons from this city and a number of other cities of Southwest Louisiana joined in giving a rousing send off to members of the Louisiana group who left here Wednesday afternoon in two special Pullman cars to attend the Grand Pre celebrations on August 20, commemorating the 175th anniversary of the banishment of the Acadians and the inauguration of the historical museum in the Memorial Hall at Grand Pre. Forty persons, including 23 girls from a number of cities in Louisiana, formed the Louisiana delegation.

Following a brief meeting held in the offices of Public Service Commissioner Dudley J. LeBlanc, in this city, to arrange final details for the trip, members of the party with approximately 150 invited guests joined in a luncheon at the Gordon Hotel where Bishop Jules B. Jeanmard of the Diocese of Lafayette, and city officials wished the party "bon voyage." The meeting was typically Acadian, and all the addresses with the exception of one were made in French.

Those who made addresses at the luncheon included: Dudley J. LeBlanc, president of the Association of Louisiana Acadians, who will be in charge of the Louisiana delegation; Right Reverend Jules B. Jeanmard, Bishop of Lafayette; Father Chiasson of Mamou; Mayor J. Gilbert St. Julien of Lafayette; Secretary F. V. Mouton of the Chamber of Commerce; and Bennett J. Voorhies, secretary of the Association of Louisiana Acadians.

From the Gordon Hotel the party formed a procession leading to the Southern Pacific depot where the two Pullman cars were boarded. Moving and still pictures of the group were made by the Harcol Film Company of New Orleans, and local photographers. The party was entertained at New Orleans Wednesday night and then departed on the Southern Railroad for Boston to join New England Acadians for Grand Pre.

The Abbeville American Legion Band furnished music for the occasions. Placards on which were inscribed "Dudley, Our Next Governor" were prominently displayed by the Abbeville Band. Larger banners attached to the two special Pullman cars bore: "Acadians of the Evangeline Country, of Louisiana."