CODOFIL is short for the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana, a State Agency created by unanimous vote of the Legislature for the preservation, development and expansion of the French language. The Fourteen Students are the winners of the District and State High School French Competition of French.

"It is clear to me that the Jonquiere program is the program in the State of Quebec is an overwhelming success since the Louisiana participation this year is double that of last year," Governor Edwards said and thanked the Quebec Government for the $100,000 that Government is giving to this year's offering of the program.

"First Government" Quebec was the first foreign government to recognize the value of the CODOFIL movement with practical programs back in 1969," the Governor recalled.

The fourteen scholarship recipients will join another 125 Louisiana students and teachers in the program for which the University of Quebec gives six hours of college credits, approved by the State Board of Education. The participants often receive up to fifteen hours credits from their own University upon their return home because of their summer stay at Jonquiere.

"National Interest" Our national interest and our cultural and economic evolution demand that we develop second languages in this state and in other states of the Union," Edwards said. "We in Louisiana are fortunate that there is an advantageous basis because of the one and one half million of our citizens who still speak or understand the French language."

The governor said he does not know of any greater educational advantage that could be rendered to the young people of Louisiana than that of giving them the opportunity of acquiring a second language.

"That is why I am particularly glad to honor you young Louisianans from throughout the State who have shown proficiency in a second language," the governor said. "I know that this experience of total exposure to the French language during this summer will serve you and the State well."

Baton Rouge — Gov. Edwin Edwards said today that Louisiana can and will show to the other states of the union and to the world that "we want Canada."

In the presence of legislators, educators, diplomats, parents, friends and relatives, he made the statement in presenting full CODOFIL scholarships to fourteen Louisiana students for a five-week summer French study program in Jonquiere, Que., Canada.

Area Winners Patricia Norwood of Lafayette and Susan Kuehling of Abbeville were the area winners. Steven Garner of Mandeville, formerly of Lafayette, was also one of the winners.

Other winners were: Mark Abrams of New Orleans, Maria Berastain of Baton Rouge, Debra Campbell of Bogalusa, Fay Ellen Coco of Marksville, Rickey Fernandez of Carville, Harriet Johnson of New Orleans, Harold Nixon of Lake Charles, Theresa Savoy of Alexandria, John Spivey of Ruston, Charles Pace of Alexandria, Susan Long of New Orleans and Mary Dusenberry of Houma.

State Superintendent of Education Louis Michot said his Department backs to the fullest the Louisiana French movement embodied in CODOFIL "especially in this State Agency's efforts to implement serious instruction of French in the schools from the earliest grades up."

Pleasant Vacation James Domengeaux, Chairman of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL) congratulated the recipients and suggested that they and the other participants of the program could look forward to an extremely pleasant vacation in one of the most beautiful sections of Canada and at the same time be exposed to a maximum of French environment where all activities are carried on in the French language.