Loyalty of Acadian Cited in La. by Quebec Official

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LAFAYETTE, La.—There is no person more faithful to his government than the Acadian, the Hon. Beno Arnaud, secretary of state for the Province of Quebec, said here Sunday afternoon.

The Canadian official, visiting in Louisiana to review a book he authored on the Acadians, said in an interview following the event that Quebec will never accede from Canada.

"We do not want Quebec to go out in the Cuban way or the Roman way," he said, noting that many of the people in the move to separate Quebec from the rest of the country are intense.

DENOUNCED MOVEMENT

Such a thing, he said, "does not go with our people. I have denounced this movement myself and all the members of the government in Quebec have denounced it."

The secretary, who is also a member of the Canadian Parliament, said that the agitation for removing Quebec from Canada "has decreased tremendously since the visit of Queen Elizabeth."

Secretary Arnaud had some things to say about Louisiana, including its cooking and a need for swimming beaches.

He said that the cooking is "the best in the world" and that the only thing lacking to make Louisiana a mecca for tourists is beaches along the coast area where people can swim.

"Our people are lacking for sunshine such as this and for the kind of food Louisiana has and they would come here for vacation instead of going to France if such things were available," he said.

REVIEW BOOK

Secretary Arnaud reviewed his book, "A History and Geography of the Acadian," in the French house on the University of Southwestern Louisiana campus before an audience that included the Mayor of Lafayette, who gave the invocation, and Mayor Rayburn of Lafayette, who conferred honorary citizenship on Secretary Arnaud and his party.

The secretary presented a copy of his book, which is in two volumes, to Bishop Schoenstatt.

Dr. Jase Philippe, USL faculty member, presided at Sunday's function and performed all introductions in the French language. Most of the book review was presented in French.

Special recognition was paid Dr. Thomas Arnaud by Arnaud for the state's work in areas of Acadian culture in Louisiana and Canada. He is head of the college of agriculture at the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

Representing President Charles de Gaulle, Bernard Tardy brought greetings from France.

The Acadian year, commemorating the 300th anniversary of the first group of Acadians to come to Louisiana, got off to a start Saturday night in Abbeville at the home of State Comptroller Roy Theriot, who is president of the Acadian Commission which is directing the bicentennial observance.

WELCOME BY AVOYX

La. Gov. C. C. Taddy Avoyn represented Gov. John McKethan in Abbeville and officially welcomed Secretary Arnaud and his party to Louisiana.

Mayor Young Bourgeois welcomed them to Abbeville, and welcome to Louisiana was also extended by the Rev. Joseph Gaffney, former U.S. ambassador to France, who is now living in Lafayette.

Traveling with Arnaud were his wife, his son Jean and his wife, Quebec's minister of cultural affairs, and the Hon. Pierre LaPorte and his wife, the Rev. E. J. Arnaud of Quebec; Paul Guetter, Arnaud's secretary; and Leonard Forest of Quebec's film division.

Among guests at the Sunday morning function was Dr. John Fletcher, president of USL.

The Canadian visitors were treated Saturday night at an Acadian barbecue which was served to the accompaniment of Acadian music.