PORTAGE BACK TO GRAND PRE

Land from Which Ancestors Were Torn

--- Courtesy Times-Picayune, New Orleans, La.

Scenes in Grand Pre and some of the Louisiana who will journey to the little town in Nova Scotia to share in the 175th anniversary observance of the expulsion of the Acadians. 1, Rudley J. LeBlanc, who heads the pilgrimage. 2, Acadian memorial chapel at Grand Pre, Nova Scotia, a replica of St. Charles church, at which the Acadians were assembled to hear the deportation order. 3, cross marking the principal place of embarcation at Grand Pre. 4, Miss Herta Girouard, Lafayette. 5, Miss Bernice Perce, Opelousas. 6, Miss Esther Lat索赔, Lafayette. 7, Miss Mabel Landry, New Iberia. 8, Miss Marie Louise Dugas, Lafayette. 9, Miss Rose Simon, Kaplan. 10, Miss Milina Mont- mery, Kaplan. 11, Miss Leonie Billeaud, Broussard. 12, Miss Dorothy Hall, New Iberia. 13, Miss Ruth Felea, Bopus. 
Among the girls already chosen are
Misses Hortense Girouard, Lafayette; Esther Latulipe, Lafayette; Rose Simon, Kaplan; Therese Puy, Opelousas; Dorothy Hall, New Iberville; Ruth Peltier, Bogalusa; William Montgomery, Kaplan; Marie Louise Dugas, Lafayette; Leoné Bilsse, Broussard; Mabel Landry, New Iberia; Annie Lou Murphy, Baton Rouge; Wilmouth Rob, Morgan City; Robert Du
bois, Erath; Claire Roy, Lafayette; Mrs. Rita Foret, Lafayette parish; Misses Hazel Sampson, Abbeville; Inez Lemelle, Contemport; Aloue Voelker, Lafayette; Lassie Com
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min; Zella Fontenot, Ville Platte; Margarette Pecot, Franklin; Mildred Thomas, Berwick; Elva Bourgeois, Welsh; Leona Morris, St.
Martinville; Madeline Bienvenu, St. Martinville; Allee Butland, St.
Martinville; Pearl Bastin, St. Martinville; May Trachen, Abbeville; Marie Carrion, St. Martinville.
The executive committee of the Association of Louisiana Acadians comprises Dudley J. LeBlanc, Lafayette; Lillian, New Iberia; C. T. Bienvenu, St. Martinville; James Greamillon, Crowley; Arthur LeCape, Kaplan; J. L. Bedard, Abbeville; C. Frank Fontenot, Ville Platte; Dr. C. A. Martin, Welsh; C. A. Moreaux, Thibodaux; Dr. Hall J. Landry, Baton Rouge; P. D. Menac, Kaplan; J. Morrissey, Roy, Lafayette; Bennett Voel
ker, Lafayette, and Lassie Combens, Contemport.

Entertainment Planned
The association was organized to sponsor the trip and plan to have the party leave Lafayette on August 12. In Washington a day will be spent sightseeing and an interview with the president at the

Those who landed on the Atlantic Coast suffered untold miseries. They died of starvation, exposure and disease by the hundreds.

FOUGHT BRITISH LATER
During the Revolutionary war only 29 years later, these same Acadians fought the English to make America free and also to avenge their wrong.

Paul Revere was an Acadian.

George Washington once sold to Lafayette that he considered the Acadians among his best soldiers.

The dispersion of the Acadians will forever be looked upon as one of the most painful and thankless deeds in history.

The Acadians who will make the pilgrimage to Grand Pre will be representatives of the most picturesque group of people living in all America. Many of them will wear their “Norman caps and habits of housewomans” and will carry with them handiwork of their world-famous craftsmen.

HISTORY OF ACADIANS
In 1603 three noblemen of France decided to come to America to find a place and country that was more peaceful than the warring nations of Europe. This expedition headed by three French noblemen consisted of 183 families who had been selected on account of their being able farmers and industrious in every sense of the word. They settled in Nova Scotia and worked and prospered. The task of clearing lands and building dykes (which still remain) around the marshes was a gigantic undertaking. They called the land Acadia from the old French word “Cada” meaning “good soil or good land.” The word was later changed to Acadia meaning “good or from good land.”

LOUISIANA NAMES NOW
Among the 120 families who came to Nova Scotia in 1603 were such familiar names as Girou, Ar
rondais, LeBlanc, Landry, Trahan, Thibodeaux, Deseret, Revere, Dou
bois, Broussard, Bourgeois, Gau
tier, Boudreaux, Blanchard, Re
nert, Gauthreaux, Goudet, Chas
son, Bourg, Cormier, Richard, Pre
jean, Guidry, Dugas, Poitier, Melançon, Comnus, Guillert, Thibaut, Delgic, Roy and ThibAu
Deaux.

In 1776 when the Acadians were deported there were 10,000 inhabitants in the land of Acadia.

The gathering of the Acadian population of Grand Pre into St. Charles’ Church, at the command of Colonel Window, to announce to them Governor Lawrence’s decree of their deportations, took place on September 5, 1763. There were 20 schooners employed in the transportation of this unfortunate human cargo. Their work was not a

Virginia and St. Martinville, La.

Various civic bodies, industrial associations and companies in the state are taking an active interest in the project, and a number of young women have been selected as delegates from these organiza
tions. The pilgrimage will be a combined pleasure and business trip, with a special idea of boosting Louisiana produce, in the places visited as well as lending an international character to the celebra
tion.

Girls to Make Trip
The original plan was to have one girl from each of the so-called Acadian parishes of Louisiana make the trip, but this program has been expanded considerably. However, a number of those who were selected to wear their Norman caps and habits of housewomans have earnestly requested additional places, and the management of the association was induced to increase the number of girls to be selected.

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