French President George Pompidou and the French people recognize the existence of a strong movement in Louisiana for the development and preservation of the French language, a close friend of Pompidou told The Advertiser Wednesday.

Rene Minguet, publisher of a weekly newspaper, Nouvelles Litteraires, visiting the Lafayette area for several days, is being given a tour of Acadia by James Domingeaux, state chairman for the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana.

Recognizes Movement
Prior to his departure for Louisiana, Minguet met with Pompidou who sent word that be recognized the existence of a strong movement in Louisiana for the development and preservation of the French language.

Minguet said that the French people are well aware of the CODIFIL program through articles appearing in newspapers and through radio and television.

Minguet also is director - general of industry, east of Paris, which has a total of 1,500 industries and 80,000 workers. He is president of CADREP (Action Committee for the Development of East Paris), president of SICOB (International Industrial Exhibition for Communication and Organization of Bureaux), counselor to commerce for foreign trade and the author of seven books dealing with sociology and economics.

Speech to House
While visiting the state, Minguet addressed the House of Representatives in Baton Rouge where he received a standing ovation from House members.

Gov. Edwin Edwards sent a letter to be delivered to Pompidou by Minguet. Contents of the letter were not disclosed.

Minguet's newspaper presents actual cultural events with a purpose to captivate the movement of ideas, research, and realism throughout the world, he told The Advertiser. He also said that "the journal is the organ for the intellectual and elite people of the world."

Accompanying Minguet on the tour is Alain Delsol, supervisor of French teachers who come to the state to teach in schools. Delsol is also serving as interpreter for the French visitor.