'SAVE OUR OAKS' PLANS STARTED

St. Bernard Workmen Dig Protective Trenches

The St. Bernard Police Jury officially started their "Save Our Oaks" program Tuesday when Joseph V. Tatania, president, dug the first shovel of mud for the trenches around the de la Ronde Oaks.

Then parish workmen and equipment moved in to dig trenches around the trees to allow excess water to drain from the roots.

N. S. Cusimano, Louis Munster, and John Metzler, police jurors from Ward 3 where the historic oaks are located, were on hand to help initiate the program.

Cusimano said that the jury has written a letter to the Southern Railway System asking that they remove the tons of iron from the roots of one of the largest trees in the alley.

He said that he is giving Southern about 10 days from the date of the letter being received to remove the metal. If they do not, the jury will get parish workmen to deposit the metal on the parish dump, Cusimano said.

The three jurors want to start a "Save Our Oaks" fund with a $20,000 goal.

They said Harnett Kane, president of the Louisiana Landmarks Society, estimated this amount was needed to rehabilitate the historic trees.