Baton Rouge, La. (AP) - The 132 delegates worked late into the night much of the time for their $50 a day to try to pull Louisiana government out of the 20th Century. That was 10 years ago.

So, in this 10th anniversary year of the start of the Constitutional Convention, the delegates will gather in seven conferences for a reunion and to naturally discuss their child, the Constitution of 1974.

The delegates, 132 elected from each House district and the others appointed by the governor, first met on Jan. 5, 1973 and then broke up into every two years they had been faced some legislators complained because they are limited in ways in which they can raise revenue and some legislators complain because the state, too, is limited.

Two largest of complaints are sections which freezes the state income tax level at the level contained in the Constitution of 1921 which freezes the vehicle license plate fee at $3 a year. Louisiana has the lowest plate fee in the nation and it been at $3 since 1940.

Joe Tragle, former state director of revenue, warned the delegates about the tax section.

"By putting the tax rates in, the convention has strictly protected the richer people," he said in 1973. "On down the road, the poor and middle income people will see what the convention did to them."

The article blocks the income tax as a source of revenue and the state will be forced to look at the sales tax, which hits the poor, blacks and middle income people the hardest.

The jury is still out on that issue.

Acadiana Delegates Plan
To Attend Reunion Party

Local delegates to the 1973 Constitutional Convention are planning to attend a 10-year reunion in Baton Rouge Friday, May 13.

Thirteen of the 15 delegates were elected from legislative districts.

They are: District 38, John Clyde Fontenot; District 39, Walter James Chapman; District 40, Lawrence B. Sandoz Jr.; District 41, J. Jackson "Jack" Burson Jr.; District 42, Ralph L. Cowen; District 43, Patrick A. Juneau Jr.; and District 44, Heloise C. Corne.

Delegates not from Acadiana are: District 30, Johnnie A. "Buck" Lamoreaux; District 37, Henry C. "Shug" Miller; District 39, B. "Buck" Charles; District 40, J. Michael "Mike" Miller; District 41, James B. "Jimmie" Stagg; District 42, Joe Tragle, former state director of revenue; and District 44, Jimmie "Jim" Coiro.

In addition, two area delegates were appointed by former Gov. Edwin Edwards. Ruth Loyd Miller was appointed to represent pro-state and B. "Buck" Charles, who died, was appointed to represent pro-federal views, while John Thistlethwaite represented the public at large.

The reunion will be held at the Shreveport Hotel.

The second longest constitution in the nation, the 1921 version was amended more than 500 times over the years to contain more than 250,000 words in three heavy volumes.