Additionally, the bank is preparing itself for a new regulation on insured-depository institutions. The regulation goes into effect for banks in the latter part of June, he says, and will cost banks and thrifts a tremendous amount of money to comply—with little benefit to consumers. "Everybody's grabbing up and spending money and trying to be in compliance with this regulation," he says.

ST. LANDRY BANK expanded its operations into Acadia Parish last year by acquiring the assets of Progressive National Bank, which had branches in Rayne and Church Point. It closed the Rayne branch and is now operating a Church Point office.

NEW IBERIA BANK celebrated 105 years of service last year, making it the second oldest commercial bank in the state, says marketing director Anne Dugas. Last year the bank expanded out of its home parish with a full-service branch facility in Lafayette's South College Shopping Center.

Dugas says the bank is offering a new service that provides customers with worldwide automatic teller machine access for customers. The service began this year.

Dugas says the bank has plans to enlarge and refurbish the West Main facility in New Iberia.

Also this year, the bank's computer and electronic capabilities will be further expanded to better serve customers and provide new cost savings programs to commercial customers.

MIDSOUTH NATIONAL BANK expanded in the area of customer service last year when it opened offering Saturday service at its Ambassadore Caffery location. "That's where most of the people are on weekends," says president C.R. 'Rusty' Cloutier. The bank also relocated its Pinhook branch to a new Pinhook address and plans to somewhat do more of the same in 1993. "Our focus is improving on the locations we have," Cloutier says.

This year has already seen a big move for MidSouth. In announcing that its stock will now be traded on the American Stock Exchange, it took a major step toward being able to compete with the billion-dollar holding companies.

The Annex listing is the culmination of a plan conceived in 1989 but put off due to the collapse of the local economy and MidSouth's own poor earnings (resulting from aggressive acquisitions of other banks), which made it less attractive to public markets. At its inception in the mid-1980s, the bank intended to build a publicly traded holding company.

MidSouth's March announcement makes it the only publicly traded bank based in the Acadiana area and one of only six in the state.

THE AMERICAN BANK & TRUST CO. OF OPELOUSAS was for the first time recognized as a Blue Ribbon Bank by Veribanc, which distinguishes it as one of the strongest banks in the country, says chief executive officer Ronnie Lachute. The bank also issued its own Visa and MasterCard last year.

This year the bank will focus on its existing local markets, with no plans for expansion into additional markets. It currently has offices in Opelousas, Lafayette, Krotz Springs, Port Barre and Lawtell.

The thrift is changing the staffing at all branches so that each one now has full loan and deposit services.

The American Bank & Trust, located at 201 North Market Street, Lafayette, is a member of the Blue Ribbon Bank program.

Customers.

Customers.

Customers.

IBERIA SAVINGS BANK last year had the privilege of being the first savings and loan in Louisiana to change its charter to a savings bank, says president and CEO Larrey Mountain.

The new charter, which eliminates one level of regulation, gives the bank the ability to offer a much broader range of services, Mountain says.

Also this year, the bank added another full-service location on Kaliste Saloom Road last year, bringing its Lafayette total to three.

It also joined the Cursors network, a national automated teller network which means customers can withdraw funds from any Cursors-connected ATM throughout the state.

Mouton says the institution closed $88 million in mortgage loans last year.

GULF COAST BANK'S 1992 highlights included an entrance into Lafayette Parish with the opening of a Johnston Street branch office in November. Chief executive officer Charles A. Patout says the institution is now focusing on bringing its "neighborhood bank" concept to Lafayette. He says employees in the bank's Vermilion Parish offices know 95 percent of their customers by their first names, and now he wants to establish this same percentage in Lafayette. "Business is on the upswing," Patout says. "We're looking for a real good '93.

The thrift is planning to open a new branch at the intersection of Kaliste Saloom and Feu Follet. The branch is scheduled to open in 1994.

In-store for the thrift this year are some changes for its Lafayette presence. "Before the end of '93, we will have begun our new Lafayette location at the corner of Johnston and Jefferson [streets]," Little says. Teche's existing office at the corner of Main and Lee streets is inadequate, Little says, for the full range of services Teche wants to offer its customers.

The new Lafayette office will offer more parking, and include the addition of drive-through service and safety deposit boxes. It will also allow Teche to expand its consumer loan capabilities. Teche will maintain its loan production office on South College Road, Lafayette, Little says.

The thrift is also planning to begin offering a national ATM network for customers.

LAFAYETTE BUILDING ASSOCIATION—Information Not Available

TECHE FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK merged with Community Homestead in Houma last year, converting the location to its Terrebonne Parish office, says president Patrick Little. "We now have offices in seven communities serving five parishes."

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HOME SAVINGS & LOAN, as a result of the findings of a demographical study it conducted two years ago, opened a new location on Johnston Street. "As 25 percent of our customers live in the area, this new branch will provide them with additional convenience," says controller Sandi Chalmers.

Also in 1992, the association implemented an automated loan processing system which speeds the processing of loans. It also changed the staffing at all branches so that each one now has full loan and deposit services.

In addition to the new Johnston Street location, Home Savings and Loan is now planning its fourth branch, to be situated at the intersection of Kaliste Saloom and Feu Follet. The branch is scheduled to open in 1994.

**Thrift Institutions**

**Local S&Ls report profitable year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Assets (in millions of dollars)</th>
<th>Net Income (in thousands of dollars)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>179.3</td>
<td>177.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>232.8</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>231.5</td>
<td>105.9</td>
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**NEW IBERIA BANK is the second oldest commercial bank in the state.**

Early stages, he says. However, he confirms that the bank does not plan to extend outside of its current two parishes. "Things are changing," Patout says. "But that's the way we're looking at it now."

The bank services an approximate 11-parish area on small business loans, extending from Lake Charles to Morgan City. Patout says it plans to maintain its position in these areas but says with plans to neither sell nor buy any other banks.

**THrift INSTITUTIONS**

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