FRENCH DIALOGUE — Chatting between events of the "France and North America: Over 300 Years of Dialogue, A Festival," held last week at the University of Southwestern Louisiana under the co-sponsorship of USL's Institute of French Studies, the USL Union and the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana were, from left, Dr. Jean-Paul Weber, City University of New York professor; Dr. Paul Spurlin, LSU-Baton Rouge; Floyd N. Calhoun, St. Martinville; Dr. Richard E. Chandler, USL professor and head, department of foreign languages; and Dr. Claude Groleau, Quebec, history professor, University of Laval.

Toronto Professor Speaks At French Symposium Here

William Eccles, University of Toronto professor, speaking Thursday at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in the "France and North America: Over 300 Years of Dialogue, A Festival" Symposium discussed "French Administration in Canada and Louisiana." He compared the French colonial administration in Canada with that in Louisiana and pointed out that the French colony there was not open to the American colonists as was the case in Canada. He said the French authorities were not open to the colonists as they were in Canada.

Also speaking Thursday was Jean-Paul Weber, professor of French at the graduate center of the City University of New York. His topic was "New Criticism and La Nouvelle Critique:"

Both Reactions

Weber compared French "Nouvelle Critique" and American New Criticism. Both were reactions against the historical criticism of the 19th century and focused attention on the work rather than the man. The came from throughout the world. It is hoped to have the event an annual one at USL.

In addition to the speakers, there were pertinent movies, sight seeing, a tea at "The Shadows" in New Iberia by the Louisiana Colonials and a social at Duletto Plantation sponsored by Trappey Food Products, a Fashion Show by the USL Mamelles, and a crawfish boil, a Readers' Theatre, and a ballet.

"Nouvelle Critique" was launched when Gaston Bachelard published his "Psychoanalysis of Fire" which is the work of many writers.

Paul Merrill Spurin, LSU-Baton Rouge, spoke on "France and American Cultural Relations, 1799-1800." He warned against superficial generalizations about cultural relations. Jefferson did not derive his political ideas from the French philosophers as often believed Spurin said. But the philosophers were widely read in America at the end of the 18th century.

Wide Interest

The week-long symposium was under the co-sponsorship of USL's Institute of French Studies, the USL Union and the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana. The event was inter-disciplinary and attracted wide interest from people within and without the state. Speakers on the program were from throughout the world. It is hoped to make the event an annual one at USL.