UNVEILING OF EVANGELEN'S STATUE AT ST. MARTINVILLE

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WITNESSED BY 15,000 PEOPLE

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Thursday, April 23, 1931
Lafayette Tribune

Climates Pilgrimage to Louisiana by Acadians From Canada
Cities Entertain Canadian-Acadians
Delegation Leaves from New Orleans for Canadian Homes

Completing their first official pilgrimage to Louisiana, which was started February 4th, 15,000 Acadians gathered at Saint Martinville Sunday afternoon. At the Presentation of the Statue at St. Martinville, the Lithuanian delegation from Canada, including members of the Canadian-Acadian Association of Quebec and members of the Acadian League of Quebec, presented the statue to the people of Louisiana. The statue is a memorial to the Acadians who came to Louisiana from France in the late 17th century.

Committees in Charge

A special committee of Acadians, headed by Miss C. T. Bosworth, entertained the visiting Canadian Acadians at breakfast at the Chateau Hotel on the Fourth Arm.

A feature of the unveiling ceremonies was the presentation of the Association of Louisiana Acadians of the first and second prizes offered by M. Capilano, cert. of the Municipality of the Acadians, at the unveiling ceremony by Louisiana Acadians at the unveiling ceremony.

A special prize, a gold medal, was awarded to Mrs. Jeanne Gendol, of Greenwood, Louisiana, for the best essay on the Acadians. The prize was accepted by Mrs. Gendol, who was the first to speak, on behalf of the Association of Louisiana Acadians, joined the delegation from Canada. The statue of Evangeline, erected at New Orleans, was presented to the Mayor of St. Martinville, and Miss Bosworth, on their pilgrimage.

Regulus Zevita Letter of Invitation

Miss Ruth Bosworth, of Chicago, one of the leaders of the delegation of Acadians who visited Canada last winter, wrote a letter to the Mayor of St. Martinville, asking him to send a delegation of 50 Acadians to Canada for a celebration and visit. The mayor accepted the invitation, and a delegation of 50 Acadians was selected from among the visiting Acadians.

The statue of Evangeline, unveiled at the Presentation of the Statue at St. Martinville, was introduced by Justice Arthur M. Groff of the Supreme Court of Canada. The statue is a memorial to the Acadians who came to Louisiana from France in the late 17th century.

Gov. Long headed a delegation of state officials, and among other state officials attending were Mayor R. St. Amant, of New Orleans, and Judge J. A. Groff of the Supreme Court of Louisiana. The mayor presented the statue of Evangeline to the public, and the statue was unveiled by Bishop Dougherty of Lafayette, who also gave a brief address.

The ceremony was held in the Courtyard of the Chateau Hotel, and was attended by a large crowd of Acadians and visitors. The statue was unveiled at 10 o'clock, and a special concert was held at 11 o'clock.

In conclusion, the Acadians expressed their gratitude to the people of Louisiana for their hospitality and for their support in the establishment of the Association of Louisiana Acadians.