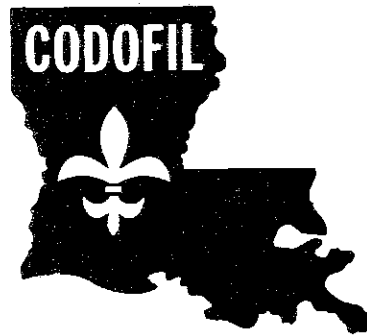


STATE OF LOUISIANA
Governor
Honourable Edwin EDWARDS



Conseil pour le Développement du Français en Louisiane

Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL)

PARISH CHAPTER MANUAL

Prepared and Recommended
by the
Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL)
Mr. James Domengeaux, State Chairman

"I will do everything in my power to encourage the continued expansion of the French language.

"In today's shrinking world where people are brought closer together and communication among them becomes more imperative, bilingualism plays an increasingly demanding and necessary role. Among the states of the Union, Louisiana enjoys an exceptional advantage due to its heritage of the French language, which is still the preferred means of communication among hundreds of thousands of its people.

"Unfortunately, this unique advantage and asset are in grave danger of being lost. CODOFIL has rendered the state a singular service in seeking to fortify and expand the French language among all the people of the state."

Edwin EDWARDS
Governor of Louisiana

"French in Louisiana can be one of this state's great natural assets. Here is something we do not have to go out and seek . . . it's already here. Our obligation is to develop it in every possible way. The French language, culture, and heritage is a natural resource in Louisiana, and we must take pride in this and try in every way to foster this pride in others."

James DOMENGEAUX
Chairman, Council for the Development
of French in Louisiana

FOREWORD

The committees described in this manual are all of equal importance. Not one takes precedence over the other. All work simultaneously in gear with each other.

For example, if the serious teaching of French is to be introduced in the elementary schools, the people have to want it. If the people are going to want it, the Speakers Committee will have to aggressively spread the word throughout the Chapter, the Telephone Committee will have to swing into action and prod the people into moving, the Membership Committee will have to intensify its efforts to get plenty of members so that the Chapter's voice will be strong, the Information Committee will have to push the story in the newspapers, in radio and TV, the Adult and High School Education Committees will have to propagandize the tragedy of not having learned a second language in the first grades, the Recruiting Committee will have to provide more and more participants to CODOFIL's foreign programs and the best participants are those who start French in the early grades, the Reception-Lodging Committee will have to show proof that there are lots of homes that would take in foreign elementary teachers of French, the Early Childhood Committee will have to make well known the arguments that top educators advance for the teaching of a second language at the earliest levels, the Cultural Committee will have to step up its efforts to give a bilingual look to the communities in the Parish so that French will not be looked upon as just a "school thing" and the Radio-Jukebox-TV Committee will have to show that the French language is something modern, exciting and fashionable.

That is what the other committees will have to do so that the Elementary Education Committee can get serious introduction of French teaching in the elementary grades. Conversely, the Elementary Education Committee's activities will help every other committee in the Chapter reach its own goals.

I cannot stress too much the importance of the Chapters and their Committees in the preservation, development and expansion of French in Louisiana. The tandem COMMITTEES - CHAPTERS - CODOFIL - LEGISLATURE is a living organism constituting the French movement. If one part fails, the whole movement fails and the French language is lost forever to Louisiana.

James DOMENGEAUX
CODOFIL State Chairman

"This great nation and Louisiana must end linguistic provincialism and Louisiana is uniquely situated to develop a true bilingualism . . . This opportunity should not be lost . . ."

"Second languages should be taught at the earliest possible levels. Many of us are casualties of the present system of offering second languages which start only in higher grades and colleges."

"I am a member of the CODOFIL board of directors, I have been an active supporter of CODOFIL since its organization . . ."

Louis MICHOT
State Superintendent of
Public Education.

For the purposes of this Manual, the words ACADIAN, CAJUN, CREOLE and FRENCH are synonymous. The word FRENCH will be used to represent the four terms.

This Manual is intended as a guide in the functioning of the Parish Chapters of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL). To form a Chapter, contact CODOFIL at P. O. Box 3936, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70501. CODOFIL will meet with you and help you set up the machinery to form the Chapter.

**[French-Speaking Population
In All Louisiana Estimated
To Be 1,468,440]**

List of CODOFIL Chapters existing at printing:

Acadia

Caddo

Calcasieu (comprises *Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu & Cameron*)

Evangeline

Iberia

Lafayette

Lafourche

Orleans (comprises *Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard & St. Tammany*)

St. Landry

St. Martin

Terrebonne

Vermilion

Basically, each CODOFIL Parish Chapter shall organize itself under articles of incorporation, adopted in the French and English languages. It shall be a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Louisiana and shall adopt by-laws to carry out the purposes and functions of this corporation, which is the preservation, development and expansion of the French language on the Chapter's territory. The articles shall be recorded in the office of the Secretary of State and in the office of the Clerk of Court in the respective parishes. The officers shall be those provided under the articles of incorporation.

The Chapter carries out its purposes and functions through the work of its committees. The composition of each committee is representative of the whole parish, or of all of the parishes forming the Chapter. The following are among suggested committees:

Radio-Jukebox-TV
Elementary Education
Cultural
Early Childhood
Speakers

Reception-Lodging
Recruiting
High School
Adult Education
Information

Membership
Telephone

PARLONS FRANCAIS

Radio-Jukebox and Television Committee

This committee makes a survey of all the radio stations in the territory of the Chapter to ascertain what kind of music each station plays. Does the station regularly play pop, or country and western, or blue grass, or grand opera, or rock 'n roll, or popular music, or soul, or music hall, or rhythm and blues, or jazz, or cowboy, or folk, etc.

ICI ON PARLE FRANCAIS.

The Radio-Jukebox and TV Committee is responsible for collecting the data on each station in the Chapter's area. Committee members listen to all the radio stations on the Chapter territory each day for a week, or assign persons to do so, or contact the radio station managers and ask them for a definition of the type of music broadcast by their station. The findings are fed to the Committee Chairman.

The Committee members compile a list of all existing talent available in the French language on Chapter territory. This information is given to the Committee Chairman.

The Committee Chairman now has the basic data on which he can initiate further action. He approaches, or has his Committee members approach, the respective radio stations and the concerns who advertise on those stations. They are made aware that it is to the advantage of the radio stations and advertisers to use the local French talent existing in their area, for this brings increased local listenership and therefore increased advertising returns and consequently increased revenue for the stations.

Because local French talent is limited in quantity and scope, the *Committee Chairman* asks the Chapter Executive Board to request from CODOFIL's main office some samples of French-language music matching the tempo, beat and type of music played by each station. CODOFIL's main office has connections with every French-speaking area in the world and therefore has resources that the CODOFIL Chapter, by itself, does not have. CODOFIL requests samples, on records or tapes, of music that matches the type played on the different stations and passes these samples on to the Chapter for the Committee Chairman.

The Committee approaches the *radio station* owners and advertisers with the samples obtained through CODOFIL and suggests that they bolster the broadcasting of the existing local French material by putting on foreign French material which is akin to the general material already being played by the station as a matter of course.

If the station and the advertisers turn down any of the above suggestions, the *Committee Chairman* asks the Chapter Executive Board to authorize the circulating of a *petition* throughout the Chapter territory asking for French on the radio. This petition will be circulated by the Committee members throughout the parish but first of all among the Chapter membership. It is placed also in public places for people to sign, such as in the banks, sheriff's office, clerk of court's office, etc.

It should not be too difficult to get a great number of names on a *petition in favor of French on the radio* if the Chapter is at all active in its territory. To attract advertising revenue, radio stations strive to reflect the tastes of the surrounding community because advertisers cater directly to the desires of the immediate public in order to attract buyers for their products. That is how both survive and that is why they will not refuse a request backed by a petition signed by a great number of people of the area.

In some cases, a radio station's active listenership will extend beyond the boundaries of one Chapter into the territory of another Chapter. Then, through their Executive Boards, the two Chapters join forces and their two *Radio-Jukebox Committees* conduct the *petition* jointly which makes for more signatures and therefore more strength.

The above deals with music because *music, the universal language*, is the easiest to start with. The same persuasion approach is used for other programs beside music.

News and weather, for example, can be given in French periodically over the radio. However, it is recognized that although a *million Louisianians speak or understand French, very few can actually read or write it*. Therefore, very few stations have somebody who can translate the news and weather from the English to the French and read it over the air. And the stations cannot be expected to hire much additional personnel.

The question is resolved if there is a *teacher of French working* in the listening area of the station and if this teacher is willing to give a little bit of time in putting out news and weather bulletins, to be read over the radio by the teachers either live or through tape. A high school, elementary or kindergarten teacher of French can do this if there is no university or college nearby. Of course, if there are others proficient in the language they may be used also.

The Committee will also initiate radio programs involving local personalities and local topics, all in French. But this stage comes after the success of the music and news-weather stages.

French language music on the radio and French language music on the jukeboxes go together because one complements the other. The same procedure is used to approach and convince the jukebox operators and establishment owners as is used for the radio station advertisers and owners. The more appealing the jukebox records are to the immediate local people the more records will be played and the more money the jukebox operators and the establishment owners will make. On the other hand, the more the records are played on the jukeboxes the more they will want to be heard on the radio and vice-versa.

The territory of a jukebox operator often covers several parishes. It is sometimes wise for the *CODOFIL Chapters to work together* on the operator whose territory takes in their respective parishes. But all good things begin at home and each parish Radio-Jukebox Committee works its own territory, starting with the establishment owners, before suggesting to its Chapter Executive Board to join forces with a neighboring Chapter and its Radio-Jukebox Committee.

"Le folklore c'est fini: il nous faut maintenant travailler à sauvegarder notre langue et ce n'est que grâce à l'éducation et à travers les mass-media que nous pourrions atteindre notre but."

James DOMENGEAUX

The importance of the electronic mass media cannot be stressed enough in the preservation, expansion and development of the French language in Louisiana. All other activities rest upon the pride that the people will have in speaking French. And that pride resides in radio, jukebox and television. Television is hardly mentioned in this manual because it is felt that TV is too complex a field to be worked on right away. Once French is on the radio, it will be much easier to get it on TV. However, this does not at all mean that television is avoided. On the contrary, the Committee strives to use TV to the fullest, especially in public-service time.

The Radio-Jukebox and TV Committees should be on guard against an attitude that can be very damaging to the movement. It is not the Committee's job to pass a value judgment on the type of music played at the stations. It is the Committee's job to provide that station with music of the same type played at the station, but in French, no matter whether somebody likes or does not like the type in question and no matter whether or not somebody considers that type of music "cultural" or "non-cultural".

"I am 100% in favor of steps to preserve Louisiana's French language and heritage. French instruction can and must start in the *first grade* in our schools. I believe we must move aggressively now to accomplish this. The language is one of our greatest assets. With it we can help to explain the United States' viewpoint of world affairs to our French-speaking friends throughout the world.

"I call upon school boards to plan for increased French instruction in our schools."

Former Gov. John J. McKEITHEN

Elementary Education Committee

"... Although one third of our population natively speak and understand the French language, the tragic fact remains that there are few teachers trained for elementary French instruction. My fear is that we will not be able to supply elementary teachers of French during the period of time required for training them. We could and would use technicians to advise and assist the Department of Education in programming bilingualism in all of our schools.

"We in Louisiana are fortunate in having in addition to our French-speaking inhabitants, a great amount of enthusiasm among the Anglo-Saxons in learning French as a second language for its pure cultural and educational enjoyment and benefit. This opportunity to develop this Movement should not be lost."

William J. DODD
Former Superintendent of Education
of Louisiana

The Elementary Education Committee intensively lobbies the Parish School Board and local PTA members in favor of establishing French at the elementary level from the first grade up. It arranges speaking engagements with the School Board and PTA's for the CODOFIL General Chairman and/or one of the CODOFIL Directors and/or CODOFIL Chapter members cognizant of the subject and/or any other person familiar in this field and sympathetic to the serious introduction of French in the schools.

The Committee in full attends every School Board and PTA meeting and brings with it to the meeting all the Chapter members it can muster as well as everybody else interested in the development of the French language.

"Nous devons préserver l'héritage culturel et surtout linguistique que nos ancêtres nous ont légué." Me James DOMENGEAUX, président de CODOFIL.

Most school superintendents are hesitant to promote the teaching of French at the elementary level. This is natural, as a result of the complexities of their responsibilities. In most cases, they move only when motivated by the population. *It is the job of the Elementary Education Committee to provide this motivation.*

This is done by the Committee members who gather around them enough support, *especially from the parents*, so that their opinion cannot be ignored by the educational authorities. The petition approach, described for the preceding Committee, will be used on the School Board if all else fails.

The French language cannot be preserved, developed and expanded unless it is put into the schools on a priority footing from the first grade up.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

"We must act rapidly if ethnic languages in the United States are not to become the exclusive property of a handful of linguistic aristocrats."

James DOMENGEAUX
CODOFIL State Chairman

Cultural Committee

"I applaud the efforts of those attempting to rekindle interest in the French language, customs and culture in our state and in our education system. We owe a debt to the French who brought to our area a style of architecture, a method of cooking, an appreciation of the fine arts and culture of gracious living."

Jimmy FITZMORRIS
Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana

This Committee visits merchants and businesses on the Chapter territory to entice them to progressively give to their establishments a French appearance. This will be done through the work of the Committee members with the help of people the Committee will have attracted, especially young people for they usually are the most enthusiastic in this type of work.

So as not to go to the merchants empty-handed, the Committee members and their workers bring with them appropriate signs containing *slogans in favor of the French language*. These slogans are printed in color on attractive moderately-sized hard-paper signs already designed for posting which are available at the CODOFIL main office. Main office also has a list of suggestions for letterheads used by many business concerns throughout the State.

Aim of this Committee's work is to gradually change the face of Louisiana's communities by introducing *bilingual advertising*.

VIVE LA DIFFERENCE: ON PARLE FRANCAIS EN LOUISIANE

Once operation "Slogan" has been brought to a successful end, the Committee through its grassroots efforts begins influencing municipal councils and parish offices to include *bilingual signs* in their plans for replacement of used or damaged street and public signs.

Ici on parle DEUX langues!
Two languages are spoken here!

The Committee's work embraces all cultural manifestations on its Chapter's territory, to give to these manifestations a French orientation. The Cultural Committees will endeavour to give a French flavor to the many festivals that dot Louisiana's calendar year. Each parish has at least one festival somewhere in its territory. The Committee will motivate the festival organizers to play French music at the festivities and to use bilingual signs on the festival grounds and in advertising.

Il faut recommencer à parler français!
We must begin speaking French again!

If the organizers refuse, then the *Committee will approach* the sponsors of the event and the advertisers and concessionnaires such as the beverage people who will be doing business at the festival. If this does not work, then the Committee, through its grass-root network, will use the petition as described for other Committees.

Laisser le bon temps rouler avec . . . !
Let the good times roll with . . . !

A French, or at least a *bilingual face to our villages and towns* will make the residents feel more at home in the French language. It will also be a tremendous boost to the local tourist industry, which means money in everyone's pocket. Tourists are flocking to Louisiana because it is different. It is different because it has the French language.

LE GOUVERNEUR DE LA LOUISIANE:

**"Soyez fiers de votre langue, parlez
français aujourd'hui et toujours"**

"Louisiana without its million French-speaking citizens would be quite another State. Everyone who speaks this beautiful language knows its tremendous value and importance to the State's culture, its heritage and its economy. No movement is more important to all our people than the development and retention of the French language. It makes the whole State, and all the citizens of the State, unique in this nation."

Wade O. MARTIN
Secretary of State of
Louisiana.

Early Childhood Education Committee

The early years of childhood

Every day and every stage of child development is important.

"1. The importance of sensorimotor experience is underlined.

"2. Language, especially that which relates to labelling, categorizing, and expressing, is intimately tied to developing greater facility in thinking."

This Committee finds out in what geographical spot on its Chapter's territory it is feasible to start an all-French school for children under six years of age (kindergarten, pre-school, nursery, etc.).

One way to find this out is the verbal approach. Committee members will get together the persons they think are interested in such a project. These persons are asked to bring in those they think would be interested. The Chapter members themselves are the first that should be contacted. Louisiana children will learn English regardless of conditions and this is good. *They will be perfectly bilingual if immersed at a tender age in an all-French learning environment and this is better.*

When a Committee member has 20 or 30 people who say they will send their small children to a French-speaking early childhood school, he, or she, tells the Committee Chairman who relays the information to the Chapter Executive Board which contacts CODOFIL's main office. Main office has some facilities that a lone Chapter may not have, including the Early Childhood Education Advisory Board set up to advise CODOFIL in this field and comprising experts from the four corners of the State. Steps are taken by main office and Chapter to establish the type of school needed.

If an all-French early Childhood School is not yet feasible, the Committee will influence the existing facilities to bring French into their operations. It will use the same approach as the one it would have used for an all-French early childhood school as described above.

Louisiana cannot preserve, expand, and develop the French language without starting in the formative years of its children. Ultimately, the Early Childhood Education Committees of the CODOFIL Chapters will have established a network of early education in French throughout the State. Part of this network could be on a private-enterprise basis, profits going into developing French in the parish. CODOFIL is a non-profit organization.

PRE-SCHOOL

"Defining French is like trying to sum up an entire people in a few words. French is the sum total of all of the dreams, the hopes, the frustrations and the joys of a people who love life."

Roy THERIOT
State Comptroller
of Louisiana

Reception - Lodging Committee

The French Heritage, still highly recognizable, adds to the natural charm and beauty of the area where the French-English tongue is heard fluently. The pleasure-loving Acadian descendants (known to many as Cajuns) have set the fine way and pace of life throughout the area understood by few but LOVED BY ALL.

This Committee works on two planes: that of making French-speaking visitors welcome and that of placing into the homes the foreign friends who are brought to the parish at low cost to help in the preservation, expansion and development of the French language. This will apply generally to teachers who are used in parochial schools and in preschool facilities.

The Committee takes pains to make the French-speaking visitors feel at home. CODOFIL feels it does not have to elaborate on this subject for Louisiana hospitality is proverbial. There is one point, however, that should be made. The French-speaking teachers from foreign countries who come to Louisiana in the framework of CODOFIL's programs, at nominal pay to them, are subject to bouts of homesickness and loneliness. The Committee makes sure these strangers do not remain strangers, by having them invited now and then into homes in the parish and on outings, etc. These events should not be fancy affairs. They should be designed to create a sense of belonging.

On the other hand, official visitors from French-speaking governments should be given the red carpet treatment with fanfare. This not only impresses them but gives free publicity to the Chapter activities and, therefore, to the CODOFIL movement.

Parlez francais, c'est la clé (du succès) pour la Louisiane!
Speaking french is the key to success for Louisiana!

Speakers Committee

This Committee provides speakers for all occasions. The Committee itself can be composed of available speakers from the Chapter territory who take turns in addressing gatherings. Local speakers are good promoters on the local level because they know the people, the situations and, remaining in the immediate area afterward, they are best placed to collect and judge the feedback from the speeches made. Speakers from other parishes, from other countries and from CODOFIL's main office can be solicited from time to time.

The Committee not only accepts speaking invitations but actively seeks speaking engagements with the local organizations such as the School Board, the PTA's, the social clubs, etc. Topics include the benefits of bilingualism, the aims of CODOFIL and the Chapter, the current CODOFIL and chapter programs, plans for the future, etc.

An active group of speakers can quickly and effectively spread the word throughout a parish about the marvelous endeavour that has attracted attention from all over the world: the preservation, development and expansion of the French language in Louisiana.

La Louisiane, foyer du français aux Etats-Unis.
Louisiana, home of the French language in the United States.

Recruiting Committee

This Committee gets participants for CODOFIL's programs. The Committee members gather around themselves a group of people who talk about the programs and encourage the local residents to participate.

These programs include trips to different French-speaking parts of the world at low cost. They include educational credit-giving courses abroad for students. They include exchanges between Louisianians and foreign French-speaking families. Details of the programs are given by CODOFIL's main office to the Chapter as they are worked out and the programs initiated.

The Committee members appear on every radio station in the parish and promote the CODOFIL programs encouraging participation from the local people. They arrange interviews with the local press, hold meetings to explain the programs and appear before the municipal councils, social clubs and PTA throughout the parish. The Committee Chairman appears before pan-parish bodies such as the School Board and the Police Jury to inform them of CODOFIL, its goals and programs or designates someone to do this in his place, preferably someone from the Chapter Speakers Committee.

The Committee distributes literature on the programs among the public and puts up posters on the programs in public places such as banks, recreational and community halls, at the sheriff's and clerk of court's offices, etc.

The Recruiting Committees of CODOFIL's Chapters will eventually have some 10,000 Louisianians a year travelling to French-speaking areas of the world. The participants in these international programs will considerably broaden their intellectual, cultural and technical horizon for the over-all good of Louisiana and its citizens.

High School Education Committee

This Committee lobbies the PTA and the School Board members for the serious introduction of French in all high school grades. The Committee acts on a personal and direct basis with the PTA and School Board members and seeks others to act in the same way, starting with the Chapter members.

Most school superintendents will not accept to innovate without motivation from the people. This motivation will come from the activities of the High School Education Committee.

The existence of French at the High School level will facilitate the establishing of French at the elementary and early childhood levels. It will also facilitate the continuance of serious French studies at the college-university level, for this level will have a hard time justifying advanced French courses unless there is an upward funneling of already French-speaking students into the colleges and universities from the lower grades, that is from pre-school up.

To be bilingual, a society has to teach the second language from infancy to maturity without any gaps along the way.

There is no College-University Education Committee suggested for the CODOFIL Parish Chapters. One reason is that the majority of parishes do not have a college or university. Another reason is that all the colleges and universities in the State have joined together and have formed the CODOFIL Academic Advisory Board which works in close relation with CODOFIL and advises on academic matters. *This is the only instance known in the Free World* where all colleges and universities have voluntarily gotten together to cooperate fully on a joint endeavour. The existence of the Academic Advisory Board shows the importance the academic world is giving to the preservation, development and expansion of the French language in Louisiana.

Adult Education Committee

— “ Soyons
fiers de parler français ! ” ; “ Parlez
français à vos enfants ! ” ; “ Le fran-
çais doit être enseigné à l'école ! ” ;
“ Parlez français, c'est de l'argent
en poche ! ”.

This Committee finds out in what places in its Chapter's territory there are enough adults who would want to gather a night or two a week to learn French or perfect the French they already have.

The verbal approach is best here. The Committee members gather together the persons interested in taking adult French courses. They canvass the Chapter membership first. A dozen persons usually constitutes an acceptable class. That class can be taught at night by a French teacher in the area, for a fee. A sound, communicable French is taught.

This Committee also has the extremely important function of encouraging the adults to speak French among themselves whenever feasible and especially in the home. If the parents are ashamed to speak the language, then the children cannot be expected to want to speak it. And if the children don't speak it, then the language is lost.

Information Committee

This Committee works out a close relationship with all news media in the parish. Committee members are responsible for exposure of the French movement in every newspaper and periodical as well as on each radio and television station in the parish.

The best way to establish a close relationship with the news media is to buy the reporter (newspapers, periodicals) or the newsmen (radio, TV) a coffee and tell him what is going on. If the other Committees of the Chapter are active, there is plenty of news for the local news media.

Another task of the Information Committee is to feed all the bits and pieces on French activities to CODOFIL's main office. This information is included in the news bulletin which CODOFIL's main office sends regularly to the members of all the Chapters in the State. These bits and pieces are not news clippings. They are the description of the activities going on at the grassroots level. Each Committee member becomes cognizant of these activities and puts them down on paper. This paper is given to one person on the Committee who puts it all together for forwarding to CODOFIL's main office for the news bulletin. The Committee Chairman is that person or he designates someone with basic writing ability to do the job.

The CODOFIL news bulletin is an important link in the well-functioning of the Chapters and of the whole movement. Through the news bulletin, each Chapter sees that it is not alone in striving for the preservation, expansion and development of the French language. The Chapters also gain from each other valuable ideas they can incorporate into their own action.

The Information Committee also clips everything that concerns French appearing in the local press. The whole Chapter territory is covered. One copy of each clipping is held for the Chapter's own archives and a copy is sent to CODOFIL's main office for inclusion in the Information Center at headquarters.

The Information Committee also influences the owners of the local news media to demand from their news agencies and wire services regular news items from the French-speaking areas of the world. Such items appearing regularly in the local news media shows to the Louisianians that they are not alone in speaking French. It is the duty of the wire services and the news agencies to supply to their member papers and radio and television stations the type of news they want.

"French is one of the great diplomatic and commercial languages of the world . . . It is a bridge to a large percentage of the world's population with whom we want to create an even greater friendship. I sincerely hope that Louisiana will set the pace for the rest of the nation in developing our ability to share a common language."

William GUSTE
Attorney General of Louisiana

Membership Committee

This Committee seeks to augment the membership of the Chapter.

It places in strategic spots all over the Chapter territory (banks, sheriff's office, clerk of court's office, etc.) the Chapter charter for people to sign. It keeps tabs on the progress and pushes for the greatest number of signatures possible

The success of the Committee's job depends largely on the degree of activity of the Chapter as a whole, therefore of the other committees. Consequently, one task of the Committee is to buzz dormant committees into action, for that is the only way the Chapter gains additional members. Without the strength of great numbers, the movement is doomed to failure.

"The time has come for the United States to abandon the melting pot philosophy. This attitude, never officially proclaimed, cemented this great country together and was a very good thing in its time. It was even essential. But today, because of unilingualism, the United States, this leader of Nations, is inexorably turning upon itself and crawling into its own shell. Through lack of communications on a deeper human level, this very influential part of the world, with a presence in every part of the world, is becoming isolated in all parts of the world.

"It is ironical, and tragic, that the country which ushered in the new era of communications finds it extremely hard to communicate . . . Language is communication, or rather the means of communication. The Council for the Development of French in Louisiana wants to bring to Louisianians this added means of communication."

James DOMENGEAUX

Telephone Committee

This Committee is composed of a good number of people who are asked to get on the phone and reach all the Chapter members to notify them of an upcoming event or of the action to be taken in regard to such and such a program for CODOFIL and the Chapter.

Each member of the Committee has a definite list of persons to phone. Members of the Committee are numerous in order to cover the whole Chapter territory.

If the members cannot be reached adequately, then all other activities of the Chapter become more or less useless. To reach adequately, means a phone call after a letter has been sent.

The functioning of Chapters, it can be seen from the preceding, depends entirely on the dynamic quality of the people selected for the various tasks involved. It is the choice of the right person that makes the CODOFIL movement, that assures the rejuvenation of the French language in Louisiana, that spurs Louisiana to becoming an advanced State in the Union, that gives to Louisiana's children the chance to be a head above the ordinary run of mankind; for a person with two languages is worth two persons. The committees described in this manual are ACTION committees, not merely coffee-drinking clubs.

The manual speaks of each parish as if there were one Chapter per parish. This is the desirable make-up of the Chapter organization. Some Chapters still comprise two or more parishes. In a reasonable length of time, each parish will be strong enough to have its own Chapter. This will make a network of 64 CODOFIL Chapters in the State of Louisiana, working to rejuvenate what is still a fluent language of a million Louisianians, *the first language of more than 30 countries in the world, the second language of another 20 countries* and the preferred acquired language of the cultural strata of most societies.

This is the text of law by which CODOFIL came into being by unanimous vote of the Legislature.

ACT NO. 409 - House Bill No. 438.

AN ACT

To authorize the establishment of the *Council for the Development of French in Louisiana*. Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The Governor is hereby authorized to establish Council for the Development of French in Louisiana, said agency to consist of no more than fifty (50) members and including a chairman appointed by the Governor from names recommended to him by legislators, and said Council is empowered to do any and all things necessary to accomplish the *development, utilization, and preservation of the French language as found in the State of Louisiana for the cultural, economic, and tourist benefit of the State*.

Section 2. *The Governor's Council for the Development of French in Louisiana* may cooperate with, and advise, other State agencies including public institutions of education.

Section 3. *Council for the Development of French in Louisiana* may receive donations and grants from individuals, corporations, and governments in order to further the provisions of this Act.

Section 4. All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved and signed by the Governor, July 20, 1968.

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