

**T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection**

**ABSTRACT**

**INTERVIEWEE NAME:** Claude C. Couvillion

**COLLECTION:** 4700.0098

**IDENTIFICATION:** [1905 - 1995] Graduate of LSU (Bach. '29, Masters '35); Vocational Agriculture Teacher; County Agent for the Cooperative Extension Service;

**INTERVIEWER:** Pamela Dean & Everett Besch

**SERIES:** University History – Distinguished Alumni

**INTERVIEW DATES:** March 24, 1992

**FOCUS DATES:** 1910s - 1970s

**ABSTRACT:**

**Tape 123**

Farming in Avoyelles Parish during the 1910s and 1920s; family history; discusses County Agent F. A. Swann; improvements in agriculture; enrolled at LSU in 1925; discusses trip to the campus from Plaquemine; living on the Old Campus; taking a train to classes on the New Campus; buildings on the New Campus; planting oak trees on the New Campus; vaccinating beef cattle; working odd jobs to put himself through school; free sandwiches for students; eradicating the sugarcane borer; 1927 flood; gets federal job in Ohio to eradicate the corn borer; planting trees on campus; teaching vocational agriculture in Houma and the importance of being bilingual for that job; working as a county agent in Terrebonne Parish; job as district agricultural agent for the Cooperative Extension Service; bringing electricity to Terrebonne Parish; impact of electricity on farm communities; animal judging teams; willingness of farmers to accept new technology; describes LSU President Thomas Boyd; lists his favorite professors; Newman Club dances; opening a hardware and feed store on Government Street; developing certified seed for cotton and soybeans; breeding chickens and selling them at his hardware store; impact of attending LSU on his career; looking through photographs;

**TAPES:** 1 (T123)

**TOTAL PLAYING TIME:** 1 hour, 34 minutes

**PAGES TRANSCRIPT:** 89 pages

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