On August 1st 1987, AMAN had 1 100 paid-up members. The expected decrease in membership, which is usually experienced by family associations after having held their first large gathering, may not happen to AMAN if every member endeavours to recruit one relative or a Mercier friend. Thank you for your help.

The President sincerely thanks all those who have sent him letters of appreciation or Christmas cards. He gladly transfers these highly appreciated messages to all benevolent members working at all levels of the Association. All volunteers are responsible for the growth of AMAN. The only merit of the President is to have founded the Association, chosen collaborators to run it, and written the book "MERCIER DEPUIS DES SIÈCLES": Volunteers did the rest. Sincere thanks to all of them.

To those who want to know what they could do to help AMAN, the president's suggestions are as follows:

- 1. Tell your relatives and friends that you are proud to belong to AMAN and endeavour to recruit a new member.
- 2. Call the person in charge of the local or district Telephone Committee you belong to and let him or her know that you want to help AMAN.
- 3. Ask the directors of your <u>Municipal</u> and <u>Regional School</u> libraries if the book "MERCIER DEPUIS DES SIÈCLES" can be borrowed.
- 4. Help other AMAN members discover their North American ancestor.

greier

5. Buy the book "MERCIER DEPUIS DES SIÈCLES", and give a copy of it, either as a Christmas or anniversary gift, to a relative or a friend.

Mercierly Yours,

ERNEST MERCIER

THE MONTRÉAL SECTION IS ON THE GO

The first-born AMAN section is Montréal. Organized in the fall of 1987, it already assumes the sponsoring of the 1988 AMAN annual meeting in the Métropole area. Congratulations to all directors and members and long live this first vigorous sprout of "l'Association des Mercier d'Amérique du Nord" (AMAN).



Sylvain Mercier, president of the Montreal Section

MERCIER TRIPS TO EUROPE

The organization of the 1988 $\underline{\text{Summer}}$ and $\underline{\text{Fall}}$ Mercier trips to England and France is well underway.

The 14-day itinerary of the <u>Summer trip</u> has been submitted to you in the 1988 January issue of <u>Le Mercien</u>. There are still 10 places available. If you are interested, please send your 200\$ deposit to <u>Voyage Lambert inc.</u>, 1009, 9e Avenue, Charny, Qc, Canada, G6W 4G5, tél. (418) 832-4621.

The 14-day itinerary of the Fall trip was sent to you in early February. On March 9, there were 20 places reserved and 22 available. If you are interested in participating in the Fall trip, please communicate immediately with l'Agence Plein Soleil, 10 650, boulevard l'Ormière, Loretteville, Qc, Canada, G2B 3L4, tel. (418) 847-1023.

REVISED ITINERARY OF THE SUMMER TRIP

The revised itinerary of the <u>Summer trip</u>, submitted by <u>Voyage Lambert inc.</u> includes Calvados and wine samplings in France. The french car which will pick you up in London on the morning of June 25, will transport you in England and France and leave you at General de Gaule 1 airport on July 9. Reasons: security, comfort and communication. The unveiling of the plaque

in memory of Jullien Mercier will take place in Tourouvre (Perche) on July 1st 1988. The president Ernest may act as the North American historical guide for the Summer trip. Please, make your reservations quickly if you want to join with other members in the first AMAN trip to the European countries of origin of the vast majority of the Merciers living in North America.

The price of the <u>Summer trip</u> is 2 326 canadian \$ for twin-bed room occupation and 2 696\$ for single room occupation. It includes:

- -- Round trip bus fare from Québec to MIRABEL;
- -- Air Canada ticket, airport tax (19\$), french visa (14\$);
- -- One canadian escort during the whole trip and one official guide in Paris and London;
- -- Three-star hotels in London and Paris; two-star hotels Superior Tour in France, with two meals a day (Continental breakfast and dinner);
- -- Luggage handling in airports but not at hotels;
- -- Farewell dinner;
- -- Tips to the trip escort and bus driver;
- -- The 44 canadian-dollar insurance covers trip cancellation, accidents, medicare, luggage loss, hospitalization and also the non reimbursable lump of 1 100\$ for trip cancellation at the last minute.
- N.B. Please note that this insurance clause does not apply to AMAN american members and their escort. They have to insure themselves with private companies.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

The couple Beatrice Mercier and Bernard Lacroix, as well as Rachel Mercier, are endeavouring to update the membership list. Up to March 1st 1988, some 275 persons had not yet paid their 1987-1988 annual dues. Please, take a look at your membership card and to the sticker on envelopes mailed to you from AMAN secreteriate. There is a mention of the year and month your annual membership fee is to be paid. The initial 12\$ fee paid at joining time entitles you to receive four members of Le Mercien and have access to the Genealogy Service during only the first year after joining the Association.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Beatrice Mercier, her husband Bernard Lacroix, and Rachel Mercier are endeavouring to find the address of some 30 members who have moved without sending their new address to the secretariate (See names on page 8 of the french April number of Le Mercien). Would you know some of those members new address?

SISTER AND BROTHER ADDRESSES

A few members have sent to AMAN secretariate the address of all their sisters and brothers. Thank you for your good cooperation. Rachel invites these relatives of yours to join the Association and to send their family genealogical records to help AMAN prepare the MERCIER genealogical dictionary.

REGIONAL DELEGATES

Regional delegates are essential links between AMAN members and its directors. The main function of these delegates is to organize regional and district (local) Telephone committees. The regional committees group district or local units each headed by one member who agrees to occasionally get in touch by telephone with some 20 people named Mercier or related to them.

The main purpose of all these committees is to gather information on each family: full name; date and place of birth; date and place of marriage of each child, includind the name of his or her escort; as well as dates of entry in religious orders of some children; date and place of burial for each member of anyone family. These family records are computerized in order to rapidly prepare the ancestry title of any one Mercier appearing in your family tree.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Members of district (local) telephone committees and regional delegates are asked to contact all persons related to Merciers they know and transmit them proper messages on special occasions such as wedding, child birth and death of members of their family.

GENEALOGY SERVICE

Many volunteers are needed to prepare and transmit to AMAN secretariate family registers comprising birth, marriage and death records for each member of a given family. The purpose of the Genealogy Service is three

folds: first, to enlarge the AMAN record bank; second, to prepare ancestry titles for any member who wants to establish links between a given Mercier person and his or her first ancestor established in North America; third, to assemble facts about the history of the Mercier in New-France.

Details pertaining to the aim and purposes of the <u>Genealogy Service</u>, as well as conditions to be met and basic ancestry records to be provided in order to pass a research contract between any member and the <u>Services</u> are given or pages 9 and 10 of the french version of the Spring $\overline{\text{(April)}}$ number of <u>Le</u> Mercien.

MERCIER DEPUIS DES SIÈCLES

The order form to be used by those who want to buy the book entitled MERCIER DEPUIS DES SIÈCLES is found on page 7 of the quaterly bulletin mentioned above.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The member recruiting form found on page 7 is to be used both by those who wish to join AMAN and those who want to renew their annual membership fee after the first year. The fee is 12\$ annually. The year and month of payment of the annual fee are indicated on your member card and the sticker found on each envelope addressed to you by AMAN secretariate.

ENCLOSURES

You will find enclosed:

- a) The french version of Le Mercien for April 1988;
- b) The second itinerary of the 1988 Summer trip in France and England;
- c) A form for registering basic family records.

Note: The english speaking members and friends wanting to join in a MERCIER trip to Europe this year should take the first one. There are enough bilingual members who are willing to act as interpretors.