

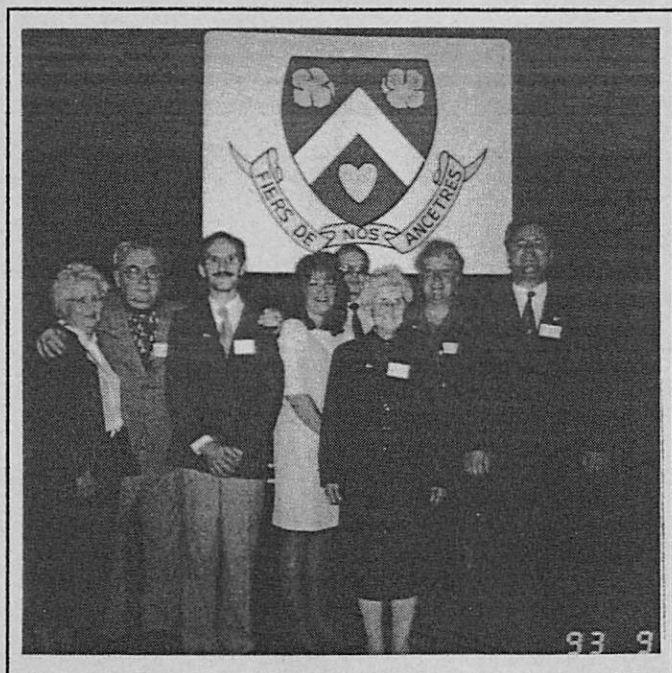


A word from the President

The last Mercier gathering, held at Sherbrooke on September 25, 1993 has been a real success. The results are outstanding : close to 300 registrations, 13 new members recruited, several annual fees renewed, a surplus of about 1 000 \$, excellent food, city tour under warm sunshine, splendid eucharistic ceremony, many paintings and genealogy tables shown, variety of entertainments, etc. The program went on swiftly from the beginning until the end.

The success of the AMAN-ESTRIE working group remains an enviable objective for the organizers of any future Mercier get together. It is a challenge to be taken up. Congratulation and thanks to the members of this memorable event.

Jean Mercier, président



AMAN-ESTRIE Regional Committee in 1993

In the usual order: Jeannette Mercier, Jean Mercier, Michel Mercier, Rosanne Nadeau-Mercier, Gilles Mercier, Marie Mercier, Ghislaine Mercier-Riendeau, André Mercier.
Absente : Jeanne Mercier-Brazeau

Congratulations to the local team!
Your engagement is outstanding

President's reports

Term 1992-1993

In the name of the Board of directors whose elected members are : André, Benoit, Cécile, Ernest, Isabelle, Jacques, Jean, Lucie, Marie and Paul-H. Mercier, I transmit today a résumé of the activities of AMAN for the term ending last June 30th.

Mercier's annual gathering in 1992

Our annual general meeting was held in Montréal on August, 16th, 1992. Although only 79 persons registered, the Board of directors of **AMAN** was satisfied with the quality of attendance. During this gathering, many discussions were held on various subjects. Many suggestions having for object the improvement of the agenda of the annual gathering were retained, as you will note this year.

Regional structures

André, Paul-H. and Ernest visited some regional committees (Chicoutimi and Sept-Iles) to familiarise the leaders with the use of the **Guide for regional committee** and supply them with various documents to help them carry out their work. However as experience showed that few attended these regional meetings, it has been decided that the documentation would be mailed by the secretariat in each of the regions. Furthermore, the list of persons who have not renewed their annual membership since 1988 has also been sent to the regional leaders so that these persons may be canvassed again.

Liaison Bulletin

Le Mercien was published four times during the term 1992-1993. During the year, we have offered members and others, the possibility of buying advertising space in the bulletin. To now the results are deceiving, but the Board will approach the Merciers owners of stores and services. A big THANK YOU to Ernest and his

committee. With its contents more and more varied **Le Mercien** is always published in the two official languages of Canada.

Fédération des familles souches

André and Ernest represented **AMAN** at the general annual meeting celebrating the 10th anniversary of foundation of the **Federation** in 1992. For 1993, André has become the vice-president of the organisation committee of the conference of the Federation. It is important to mention that our association uses the services of the **Federation** for the printing and mailing of our bulletin as is it less expensive to proceed that way.

Rendez-vous in Sherbrooke, 1993

Thanks to Sister Marie and her work group, presided by André from Sherbrooke, for their welcome in these magnificent surroundings. To my knowledge, it is the first time that the annual gathering is held in such a splendid site. Thank you to all the volunteers of the Eastern Townships who contributed to the actualization of this magnificent day.

Recrutement

Our objectif of a 1 000 paid-up members is always the same. Even if no efforts were spared by the directors to raise the membership of **AMAN** there is still lots of work to be done.

Experience shows that the recruitment procedures from old list of unpaid up memberships is not practical. One of the most effective way is to use the list of Merciers in the telephone book and group them by localities. This job is in progress in many regions of Québec. We invite members to do personal recruitment especially amongst members of their own family.

It must be noted that life membership certificate is still available from the secretary-treasurer, Benoit.

Joint gathering

The Lehoux family suggests to hold a gathering of many families on August, 6th, 1997. It will be the 350th anniversary of the arrival of the three vessels from **Larochelle**, France, carrying many of the ancestors including Jullien Mercier. We were approached to take part in the organisation committee. We accepted to collaborate while informing the interested parties that **AMAN** reserves the right to hold its meeting at the date of its choice, since in 1997, the Merciers will mark the 10th anniversary of the reunion of 1987.

Saphouse

This activity initiated by the leader of the **Bois-Francis region** yielded 1721 \$ for a cost of 1702 \$ leaving a profit of 19 \$. Furthermore, we have recruited 20 new members. Congratulation to **Cécile** and **Lucie** as well as to all Merciers of the **committee** for the success of the day.

Financing

Due to Benoit's efforts, our association is now accredited by Loto-Québec as sales agent for Loto-Matique. A commission will be paid to us on all purchases made by a member of **AMAN**. A message was inserted in **Le Mercien** January 1993 as well as a Loto-Québec purchase form enclosed with membership renewal. Furthermore the request of donation and the sale of advertising in **Le Mercien** are added to the suggested means.

Honour to the founder and first president of AMAN

It is agreeable to give homage to a pioneer of our family association, **Ernest Mercier**. Let us

recall that in 1989 he was made an officer of the **Order of Canada**, raised to the **Hall of Fame of Canadian Agriculture** in 1991 and, in 1992, made a member of the «**Temple de la Renommée de l'agriculture du Québec**». In December 1992, he received the medal of the 125th anniversary of the Canadian Confederation. In the name of all **AMAN** members, congratulations and thanks to Ernest Mercier for his incessant labour to the Mercier cause.

Outlooks

In 1993, the Administration emphasized the updating of members and allies family registers. This year, this action must be continued and we count on seniors and adults to supply to the secretariat indispensable and relevant information (date and place of births, weddings, taking vows and burials) to consolidate the genealogical bank GÉNAMAN.

Youth must take over and continue the initiated actions of our association. We must bridge the gap between generations (seniors, adults and teenagers). These persons must discover their ancestral roots while narrating the prowesses of their parents and grandparents who did not leave behind writings of their realisations. This toil must be done by us membres of **AMAN** and allies.

Acknowledgements

At the end of my first term as president of **AMAN**, I would like to thank all the members of the Administration board with whom I have worked through this past year. Thank you, Mercier members, allies and friends for your support and your presence here to day.

The President

Jean Mercier
September, 25th, 1993

Eucharistic Celebration at Sherbrooke

The high mass celebrated at the Mercier's gathering, on September the 25th, in Sherbrooke was :

- offered and paid for by Noël Mercier and his spouse, Germaine Morin, for the rest of René Mercier's soul, those of all AMAN members dead since April 1985 and all the Merciers and their relatives who passed away since the beginning of New France;
- presided by Jean Mercier, retired priest, at Sherbrooke, assisted by Jean Cauchon, priest, whose mother was a Mercier;
- animated by the choir leader Hélène Parent, f.c.s.c.j. and the organ player Lucille Labbé-Veillette;
- witnessed by more than 250 people who participated and sang loudly remembering the old saying : «**To sing is to pray twice**».

Note : Author of the prayers : Jean Mercier assisted by Ernest Mercier.

Offerings by the priest and some participants

The priest

The two sheafs of flowers, offered by Marie and André, the two masters of today's happening, symbolize all the intentions of the large Mercier's family of North America and want to be a response to all those that lie in its hearts.

Descendants of ancestral couples

In memory

of Jullien Mercier and Marie Poulain, these remote ancestors who came from **Le Perche**, France, with many other families during the 1640 decade. They settled on the **Côte-de-Beaupré**, in the Quebec region, and seeded viable grain. The latter has grown and given, for the last three centuries, an abundant crop in America.

Praise to the Lord

In memory

of Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec and Andrée Martin, as well as the other Pierre Mercier and Marguerite Lemain.

The first couple, married at Beau-Bassin, Acadia (Nova Scotia), settled in Montmagny about 1700. The second couple, wedded at Neuville, milled the grain a few miles West of Québec, the age-old capital of New France.

Praise to the Lord

In memory

of the verger Pierre-Simon Mercier and Marie Renée Pineau, these devoted servants of the Church, who rang the bell of the christian awakening in the Richelieu Valley.

Praise to the Lord

In memory

of the ancestral couple Charles Mercier known as Lajoie and Marie Anne Lahayse, these brave settlers who made the forest move back and stubbed up the land. They opened this new land and seeded the wheat provider of the daily bread in the Montreal area.

Praise to the Lord

In memory

of the ancestral couple Jean Baptiste Mercier from Bordeaux, France, and Héloïse Leduc from Montreal, who were wedded about 1800 in Louisiana.

They developed a large sugar-plantation in the vicinity of «La Nouvelle-Orleans». Their first and second generation descendants endeavoured to implant a mixture of white and coloured culture in this ex-french territorial possession of southern United States of America.

Praise to the Lord

Let us pay a tribute of gratitude and admiration to all these pioneers. In sighting the film of our little history, we see defilading, at the rythm of seasons, the procession of these brave inhabitants accompanied by the caravan of outstanding women who have courageously built the French Canadian people who willingly respects the soil, the american land. The farming sector was coming to life in New France.

Praise to the Lord

In memory

of these land settlers, these farmers, these agrologists, these land lovers so numerous among the descendants of the ancestral Mercier couples in North America.

This heritage of our ancestors — shaped by human and evangelic values — we, the Merciers of North America, have to devote ourselves in **preserving it, enriching it and transmit it** to our descendants.

Praise to the Lord

In memory

of all the other ancestors who came from the ancient provinces of France : **le Perche, la Normandie, le Poitou, la Touraine, l'Aquitaine**, etc., who migrated and took wife and land in New France. Today, we find their

descendants as far as Louisiana and even in Haiti and South America. Let us penetrate our spirit of our motto '«*Proud of our ancestors*».

They are the elders who gave us the taste for life and have transmitted us the christian values and the joy to share.

Praise to the Lord

The priest

O Lord, accept this sheaf of memories of our ancestors and listen to the prayers of all these Merciers, their relatives and friends assembled in this place.

Lay from these flowers, these petals, the perfume of the prayer.

We ask The through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Aman.

The AMAN-ESTRIE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Long-lived the **AMAN-ESTRIE Regional Committee** of our young family Association founded at Sherbrooke, on September 25, 1993.

Why not offer to your relatives and Mercier friends a membership annual fee (\$15) in the AMAN or the book *Mercier depuis des siècles*?

Lotomatique

Thanks to those who buy their loto tickets through AMAN.

Summary of operations up to now

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Total amount of sales | 1 593,00 \$ |
| Total amount of money won by owners of tickets | 163,20 \$ |
| Total AMAN of the commission received | 190,73 \$ |

Le secrétaire, Benoît

Encourageons nos annonceurs

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(819) 362-2544

Michel et Hélène Vallée
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2 personnes par chambre : 30 \$ par personne
3 personnes par chambre : 25 \$ par personne
4 personnes par chambre : 20 \$ par personne

The president
Jean Mercier



A- FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE LAST TWO TERMS ENDING ON JUNE 30TH

| | 1993 | 1992 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| INCOME | | |
| Membership fees | 5 483 | 6 671 |
| Grants, gifts, Lotomatic, genealogical fees, sponsoring | 151 | 1 221 |
| Interest and Profit from the sale of souvenirs | 335 | 639 |
| Total income | 5 969 | 8 531 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Liability insurance | --- | 221 |
| Regional committees | 975 | 1 239 |
| Related costs, bank fees, travelling | 250 | 385 |
| Meetings and conventions | 559 | 3 273 |
| F.F.S.Q. - Services and fees | 204 | 793 |
| Le Mercien | 3 474 | 3 427 |
| Advertising - promotion | 63 | 227 |
| Secretariate | 1 613 | 2 526 |
| Genealogical services | 1 039 | 388 |
| Total expenses | 8 177 | 12 479 |
| SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE TERM | (2 208) | (3 948) |

B- BALANCE SHEET AS AT JUNE 30th

| | 1993 | 1992 |
|---|---------|---------|
| A S S E T S | | |
| Cash on hand | 2 048 | 713 |
| Inventory of souvenirs (at cost) | 525 | 625 |
| Term deposits | 2 000 | 4 000 |
| Furniture | 2 962 | 2 962 |
| Total assets | 7 535 | 8 300 |
| L I A B I L I T I E S | | |
| Reserve - Life membership and genealogical data | 2 577 | 839 |
| Advance from directors | 305 | 600 |
| Total liabilities | 2 882 | 1 439 |
| A C C U M U L A T E D F U N D S | | |
| At the beginning | 6 861 | 10 809 |
| Surplus (deficit) for the term | (2 208) | (3 948) |
| At the end of the period (since 1985) | 4 653 | 6 861 |
| Total liabilities and accumulated funds | 7 535 | 8 300 |

For the Board of administrators,

_____ president
Jean Mercier

_____ secretary-treasurer
Benoît Mercier

I have examined the statements of income and expenses as well as the balance sheet as at June 30th, 1993. In my opinion, these statements represent accurately the financial position of AMAN according to accounting procedures generally recognized and applied in the same ways as they were in the previous years.

Laurent Mercier c.g.a.

Nouvelles -- NEWS

An outstanding lady : Isabelle Mercier-Dufour

A tribute of homage has been paid to Isabelle Mercier Dufour, the past vice-president of AMAN for her involvement in the Quebec world of education during her long career. The following article has been published in the february issue of **Quoi de neuf?**, the liaison bulletin of the **Quebec Association of retired teachers.**

Congratulations to Isabelle who is still involved in several AMAN's activities, namely the liaison bulletin **Le Mercien.**



Isabelle Mercier

«Durant sa carrière qui s'est terminée en 1988, Isabelle Mercier-Dufour occupe successivement les postes d'enseignante au primaire, de spécialiste en économie familiale au secondaire pour ensuite devenir conseillère pédagogique de cette discipline et conseillère pédagogique en arts plastiques. Pionnière de l'enseignement des arts au primaire, elle collabore avec le groupe des innovateurs du ministère de l'Éducation à la naissance d'un premier programme complété d'un guide pédagogique pour ensuite travailler à leur renouvellement au cours des années suivantes.

«Aux enseignantes et enseignants du primaire, Isabelle a légué un héritage précieux : un document d'une centaine de pages illustrant l'évolution graphique des enfants de deux à quatorze ans. Plus de 4 000 exemplaires ont déjà été vendus à travers la province et on en redemande. Cette publication lui a valu la médaille d'honneur de l'Association québécoise des éducateurs spécialisés en arts plastiques.

«À l'époque du Rapport Parent, Isabelle devient vice-présidente du Syndicat des institutrices et instituteurs catholiques de Québec. Elle oeuvre aussi bien à la CEQ qu'à l'Association canadienne des éducateurs de langue française. C'est au sein de l'Association d'économie familiale du Québec dont elle fut élue présidente de 1967 à 1969 qu'Isabelle exerce une action déterminante. Parmi ses réalisations majeures, rappelons sa contribution remarquée à la revue Actualité, la planification et la parution des premiers Bulletins de l'Association et la mise sur pied de nombreux comités pour une orientation nouvelle en sciences familiales.

*«Au sein de l'A.R.E.Q., Isabelle est membre actif du comité directeur de son secteur et elle enrichit le comité du Bulletin **Quoi de neuf?** de son expérience et de ses nombreux talents.*

«Sois donc félicitée, chère Isabelle, pour ton engagement.»

Yves Hebert, priest

Yves, the son of the couple Gérard Hébert, agronomist, and deceased Jeannine Mercier from St. Pamphile, Quebec, has been ordained priest by bishop André Gaumond

(Following on page 11)

**Une façon d'aider financièrement l'AMAN —
— One way to help AMAN financially**

Payez-vous trop cher pour vos appels interurbains? —

— Do you pay too much for your long distance calls?

Si **OUI**, l'AMAN peut vous aider.

If **SO**, AMAN can help you.

On offre à l'AMAN la possibilité de devenir l'agent de vente de services téléphoniques d'INTERTEC / MATRICOMM auprès de ses membres.

INTERTEC / MATRICOMM offers AMAN to become the retailing agency of telephone services to its members.

Votre partenariat avec une agence de vente de services téléphoniques peut signifier des rabais appréciables sur vos frais d'appels interurbains annuels et une aide financière pour l'AMAN.

Your partnership with an agency of telephone selling services may mean a reduction in your long distance annual call invoices and a financial help to your family association (AMAN).

| Avantages et coûts | Advantages and costs |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Frais annuels — Rabais (%) | 1. Annual costs (\$) — Rebates (%) |
| 0-500 \$ 35,0 % | 0-500 \$ 35,0 % |
| 501-1 000 \$ 40,0 % | 501-1000 \$ 40,0 % |
| 1 001-2 500 \$ 42,5 % | 1 001-2 500 \$ 42,5 % |
| 2 501-5 000 \$ 45,0 % | 2 501-5 00 \$ 45,0 % |
| 5 001-10 000 \$ 47,5 % | 5 001-10 000 \$ 47,5 % |
| 10 001 et plus 50,0 % | 10 001 and over 50,0 % |
| 2. Frais mensuels de facturation | 2. Monthly charge for invoicing |
| - Résidence 2,00 \$ | - Residence 2,00 \$ |
| - Commercial 5,00 \$ | - Commercial 5,00 \$ |
| 3. Frais d'entrée (carte de membre) | 3. Entry fee (membership card) |
| - seulement une fois 24,95 \$ | - only one time 24,95 \$ |
| 4. Épargnes générales | 4. General savings |
| - Au Canada et en U.S.A. | - in Canada and U.S.A. |
| - Dans le monde | - in the world |
| 5. Service | 5. Service |
| - 24 heures par jour | - 24 heures a day |
| - 7 jours par semaine | - 7 days a week |

En joignant INTERTEC / MATRICOMM vous réduirez de façon appréciable vos frais d'appels interurbains et aiderez financièrement votre jeune association de famille (l'AMAN).

In joining INTERTEC / MATRICOMM you will reduce substantially your monthly long distance call invoices and help financing your young family Association (AMAN).

Pensez-y deux fois!

Think it over twice!

Si cette proposition vous plaît, ainsi qu'à vos apparentés et amis, veuillez prendre contact le plus tôt possible avec :

If this proposal is agreeable to you, your relatives and friends, please get in touch as soon as possible with :

Jean Mercier (418) 667-1973 et / and Benoît Mercier (418) 623-0833

Echo of AMAN-ESTRIE (EASTERN TOWNSHIPS)

Homely of the Mercier Gathering High Mass
by Jean Mercier, priest

What reasons dit motivate us to assemble today?

1. To witness this exceptional move of AMAN (l'Association des Mercier d'Amérique du Nord)? No one could miss it.
2. You have read media's paragraphs giving notice of this Mercier gathering? No great headlines! We had no budget to advertize. One ventures to try? It is not banal; it is the Mercier line.
3. In these days, when so many values which the Merciers are so fond of are breaking down, the world is today searching for its roots. **Where do you come from? Who are You? Where are you going?**

Today's gathering will help us at least partly, I hope, to give an answer to these questions. Finally, why did you come? In the crenel of the bottom of your heart, you have always been in search of the **absolute**. You want to say thanks to your **God, Father and Providence** who has granted you such ancestral couples who have generated such parents who today raise children who are proud and ready to assume their responsibilities.

The time allotted to this homely is limited. It is, therefore, impossible to relate exhaustively the history of the Merciers.

I have already prepared a four-page text on this sujet with Luc, my brother and judge. You may have seen it in the 1993 July issue of *Le Mercien*.

In addition, prayers of participants will recall (pages 4 and 5) the cavalcades of these brave ancestral couples of the large Mercier family in North America.

This afternoon, I prefer to pay homage to the pionners who have built this Mercier dynasty and I will endeavour to disclose the feelings we have face to face with them. Through these songs of André Dumont and Robert Lebel, magnificently emitted by Sister Hélène Parent — these songs that I have meticulously chosen for this occasion — you will feel, like I do, a seething in your heart.

We are invited to the feast, to celebrate, to blow up with joy and hope around the table of the **Word**, of the **Eucharist** :

*“Leave there all your problems;
Leave there all your worries;
It is God who comes; it is God who loves you.
Come and share his bread of love;
Come to the banquet; come to the table.*

*This bread cures our misery
And free us from the fear.
It comes and gives to our earth
The love and joy of the Lord”.*

And the offering of the bread
and wine calls for fraternal service.

*“As Christ, let us know how to dress the table
As He puts on the apron,
Let us get up each day
And serve with love, as He did.*

*Let us offer the bread of his word
To people who are happiness hungry;
Let us be for them signs of the kingdom
In the midst of our world.*

*Let us offer the bread of his promise
To people who are future hungry;
Let us be for them signs of fondness
In the midst of our world.”*

Year after year, the Mercier tree has grown up. Its branches have stretched out in New

France, New England, Louisiana, in all North America as far as the Caribbean Islands (of which Haiti). This genealogical colossus shaken by the winds and tides has suffered the storm uses of centuries.

I realize, like you, that a few limbs have fallen in the course of decades. Some leaves have been bruised slightly. The bark has split on some spots, following miseries, breakings. *"Let us be proud of our ancestors"* claims our motto. Let us remember these words of the **Sage** : *"The branch which falls down makes lots of noise; but let us not forget that the forest continues to grow"*.

Today's Gospel tells us : *"We must be the salt of the earth and the light of the world"* Our elders have been this salt — maybe not always refined but at least coarse salt — that has given taste to their life, flavour to our culture.

And this light, ours do not like, at the request of Christ, to hide it under the bushel. They want it bright, warm and radiant.

After having aged, having experienced the life rebounds, we appreciate more the heritage received from our parents, our ancestors.

May I cite a phrase of a child living today who is recaling his mother's remembrance. *"When I think of her, I smell the good bread and touch velvet."*

Our elders, architects of the great Mercier household are for me blessed women and men.

One catechism teacher asked one day to a child. *"Who is a blessed person?"* Regular observer of the leaded glass window in his church, he answered spontaneously : *"A blessed person, it is a tall personage brimming over with light."*

All these elders, our Mercier ancestors and ancestresses!

*"They are numerous and blessed,
Who never got spoken of*

And have not left images;

*Those who have, since ages,
Loved incessantly, to the best of their ability,
As much their brothers as their God.
Those of whom we do not say a word;
Those blessed of the humble class,
Who never did miracles.*

*Those who never had any ecstasy
And have left no other trace
Than a piece of land or a cradle...*

*Numerous are people of small means
Those blessed of the everyday life
Who will never enter the history.
Those who worked without glory
And have worn their hands
In baking the bread"*

At the communion time, we will sing :

*"After ending the long run of the years
You will come and sit down, a little tired,
And perhaps will you see
The glance of an unknown person
Who had followed you
Throughout the whole day long."*

This unknown is the **Elder** and the **Elder** of your ancestors : **Your God!**

All these, men and women, who have contributed to make this nice Mercier family tree grow, this tree that has produced what we are, we praise them; we thank God for that.

These forebears may perhaps have only their name almost erased on a stone monument in the cemetery, maybe sometimes a thought in our prayers.

*"But they are in the heart of God!
And when one of them leaves the earth
To reach the house of the Father,
A star is born in the skies..."*

1993-09-25 Jean Mercier, priest

Note : This translation from french to english does not give out the beauty of the rhymes of the original text of this homely. Ernest Mercier.

| † Décès | Deaths † | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Condoléances aux familles Mercier dont l'un des membres est décédé récemment. Deepest sympathy to Mercier families that have lost a member recently. | | |
| Nom-Name | Inhumation-Burial | Endroit - Place |
| Eugène Mercier | 1993-07-08 | Montmagny, Qc |
| Wilfrid Mercier | 1993-08-11 | Québec, Qc |
| René Mercier | 1993-08-12 | Québec, Qc |
| Clément Mercier | 1993-08-20 | Charlesbourg, Qc |
| Yvette Fréchette Mercier | 1993-08-24 | Québec, Qc |
| Alzire Mercier | 1993-08-28 | Québec, Qc |
| Jacques Mercier | 1993-08-31 | Beauport, Qc |
| Régina Desrochers Mercier | 1993-09-09 | Lévis, Qc |
| Fernand Bisson (Rolande Mercier) | 1993-09-14 | Québec, Qc |
| Émile Labrecque (Marie-Anna Mercier) | 1993-09-30 | Beauport, Qc |
| Anette Lapierre Mercier | 1993-10-13 | Saint-Vallier (Bellechasse), Qc |
| Bernadette Mercier Montminy | 1993-10-27 | N.-D.-du-Rosaire, Montmagny, Qc |

(Following of page 7 News)

of the **La Pocatière diocese**, on saturday October 2, 1993. Jeannine is descendant to the 9th north american generation of the ancestral couple Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec and Andrée Martin. The origin of Pierre Mercier has been discussed lengthtily in **Le Mercier**, January 1993. Congratulations and fruitful ministry to Guy Hébert.

Paul Mercier, federal deputy

On October 25, 1993, Paul Mercier, ex-mayor of Blainville, has been elected deputy of the **Bloc Québécois Party** in the last federal election. Congratulations and long service!

This new member of the House of Commous, Orrawa, is not a descendant of any of the six ancestral couples established in North America before 1800. He is an immigrant of an european country recently established in Québec, Canada.

Last August, Paul Mercier traveled by bicycle from Montreal to the Lac-St-Jean District (about 1 000 kilometers). While in Quebec City, he visited Michel Pagé, the ex-minister of Education of the province of Quebec ans expressed his views on the large number of dropouts in high schools. He believes it is due to drastic changes which occurred in Quebec during the sixties. He is of the opinion that all human beings have the right to be educated but not all of them have the genes and the intellectual, physical and moral abilities to assimilate at the same rate all matters taught in schools.

"We wanted to tackle the weaknesses of classical colleges by equalization when Nature gives more to some human beings than others. Putting all of them in the same bag ends in displeasing all of them. The **ideal equality** is surely desirable except that Nature does not share it in attributing its gifts to human beings".

Distinction to Jean Mercier, priest

At the Mercier gathering of last September 25 in Sherbrooke, Jean Mercier, priest, has been made Honorary Life Member of our family association. Bravo! Congratulations!

The AMAN members sincerly thank you Jean Mercier for your attachment to the church, to the french language and the large Mercier family. Long life and happiness in your retirement years.

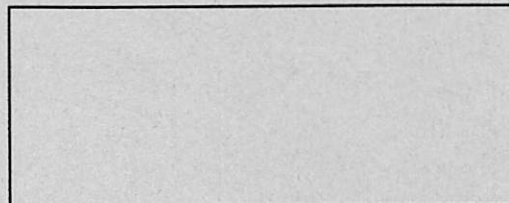
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Report of the secretary-treasurer for the fiscal year 1992-1993 Salient facts

- The Board of Directors met **six times**
- The Executive Committee met **twice**
- AMAN had **337** paid-up members of whom 15 were life members
- **The deficit** was 2 208 \$ and the decrease in income 2 562 \$ (30 %)
- The **expenditures decreased** by 4 302 \$ (34 %)
- **Call for benevolent work** in order to reduce expenditures
- **Search for external financing** : publicity, Lotomatique, etc.
- **Thanks** to the part time secretaries : Odette Côté, Hélène Breton and Claudette Dionne, for their help which is highly appreciated
- **Thanks to all benevolent people**, namely Lauréat Mercier who has audited AMAN's financial operations for the last 11 years

The secretary-treasurer
Benoît Mercier

Do not forget to answer the question concerning the reduction of your long distance telephone calls while helping AMAN financially (see page 8).

Summary

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Word from president | 7 | News |
| 2 | Annual report (1992-1993) | | - Isabelle Mercier |
| 4 | Eucharistic celebration | | - Yves Hébert, priest |
| 5 | Lotomatique | | - Paul Mercier, Federal member |
| 6 | Financial Statement | | - Jean Mercier, priest |
| | | 8 | Rebates on long distance calls |
| | | 9 | Homely of the Sherbrooke mass |
| | | 11 | Deaths |
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