



# *Le Mercien*

*Voice of the Mercier of North America*

A must to see :  
<http://www.famillesmercier.org/>

## Word of the President

### Visit our New Web Site

The Association of Mercier of North America has updated its website, both in French and English. A new address for this site is also use. Even if, for a short period of time, you will be able to use the old one and the new. Here is the new address : <http://www.famillesmercier.org/>. At the time I write this message, only one text in English was missing to be all complete.

You can see on the site that a large part was for genealogy was uncovered. We have put the first three generations of the five Mercier who were the first to come in North America and took roots.

You are invited look at the new web site and let us know of any kind of errors you might find or things that could improved it.

We have tried to reveal certain persons bearing the name Mercier who have been famous or illustrious during centuries and to discover some historical places in Europe and Canada. They are the one I have chosen. No doubt, there are other many famous ancestors and historical places has important has those who were chosen. All you have to do, is to let us know about it. It would be greatly appreciated.



### Research of ancestors

One of our Internet correspondents is searching for his ancestors. Even if we worked hard, it was not possible to find a link with this Mercier and anyone of the ancestors in our data bank. This correspondent, Napoleon, born in 1931 in Chicago, Illinois, his the son of Napoleon Mercier, also born in Chicago on July 17, 1910 and married to Sophie Adeline Skupinski on May 21, 1930 in Crown Point, Indiana and died in Chicago on January 11, 1955.

We know that this Napoleon is also the son of another Napoleon who was married to Caroline Govier or Gobier or Gohier (this name was written is various ways, depending on the registered acts found). Caroline died in Chicago in 1949. This Napoleon had a sister, Dorothy, married to Clifford McGrath. The father of Napoleon and Dorothy was possibly named Paul but we are not sure of that. Our correspondent wrote to us that he doesn't speak French any more, which means that earlier in his family history they were speaking French. The Napoleon born in 1910 was a great ball player, a softball player from the excerpts from newspaper of the time in Chicago. His was nicknamed "Sonny". You will find in this newsletter in the "Mercier of all kinds" chronicle, the reproduction of a newspaper article on him that gives us a glimpse of his career) Every complementary information would be appreciated. Thank you.



MERCIER

Armoiries des Mercier  
d'Amérique du Nord.



Armoiries d'un Mercier  
d'Angleterre au 15<sup>e</sup> siècle  
répertoriées dans Burke  
Armorial de Londres.



Armoiries d'Ernest Mercier

Armoiries d'Ernest Mercier  
déposées par l'Institut Généa-  
logique Drouin en 1954.

## ***Association des Mercier de l'Amérique du Nord (AMAN) inc.***

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G1V 4C6 CANADA

[www.famillesmercier.org/](http://www.famillesmercier.org/)  
[www.genealogie.org/famille/mercier](http://www.genealogie.org/famille/mercier)  
E-mail : [mercier.aman@hotmail.com](mailto:mercier.aman@hotmail.com)

The Association was incorporated by letters patent April 19, 1985 and registered the same day in Volume 1194, folio 160, in accordance with Part III of the Quebec Companies Act (R.S.Q. Chap. C-38, s. 218).

The objects of the association are as follows :

1. To organize Mercier gatherings in North America and especially in the Province of Quebec.
2. To publish regularly in Quebec, in the form of a newsletter, information on Mercier families of North America and Europe.
3. To collect and disseminate information on the accomplishments of those who have brought recognition to the Mercier name throughout the world.
4. To promote the identification, restoration and preservation of buildings and objects of value that belonged to Merciers, who have left their mark in North America and in Europe.
5. To get the Merciers of the world to become concerned about the preservation of their heritage, to become interested in genealogical studies and in stories about those who will not make it into the history books.
6. To create and develop a non-profit foundation whose purpose would be to achieve the objects mentioned above.
7. The objects will not, however, permit donors or their beneficiaries to recover in any way the funds which will have been given to the corporation.

## Honour roll - Governors of A.M.A.N.

Name	Occupation	Residence	Admission
Ernest Mercier	Founding President of l' A.M.A.N.		1999
Pierre-Paul Mercier	Administration	Saint-Lambert, QC	2000
Alain Mercier	Communications	Québec City, QC	2000
Charles Mercier	Engineering	Québec City, QC	2000
Christine Mercier	Teaching	Québec City, QC	2000
Louis Mercier	Actuary	Saint-Bruno, QC	2000
Pierre Mercier	Engineering	Saint-Bruno, QC	2000
Suzanne Mercier	Commerce	Montréal, QC	2000
Lucienne M.-Croteau	Teaching	Bonnyville, AB	2001

## Board of Directors for 2008-2009 and services of AMAN

### Executive

<b>President:</b>	Benoît Mercier (#222), Québec City	Tel.: (418) 623-0833	Email : « benoitmercier@hotmail.com »
<b>Vice-Pres:</b>	Germain Napert (#1480), Boisbriand	Tel.: (450) 437-1220	Email : « nappert@videotron.ca »
<b>Secretary:</b>	Suzanne Mercier, (#1126) Saint-Damien,	Tel.: (418) 789-2976	Email : « geobegin@globetrotter.net »
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#### Administrators

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### Membership dues

Annually :	\$25
Life membership, 65 years and older :	\$250
Life membership, less than 65 years of age :	\$400
Governor :	\$1,000

*Those amounts are in U.S. currency for U.S. residents and in euros for European residents.*

This newsletter is named after the kingdom of Mercia which existed from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> centuries. It was one of the seven original kingdoms constituting England. The inhabitants of that territory must have been called Merciens (or Mercien in French).

We are proud to perpetuate that name today.

**A.M.A.N. is a member of  
the Québec Federation of First Families**

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# Presentation

**W**e have to insist, a visit to the new web site of the AMAN for everyone who has any kind of affinity with Internet is a must.

Up to recently, the realization of this window should have been made according our capabilities and the devotion of the member of the Board with the help of a few volunteers without any financial help.

The decision to put some money from the amount made from the development funds has given us the chance to give the job to experimented people for the concept and the development of the web site that follow the mission of the AMAN and that give us a chance to avoid financial and technical constraint. A formation will be given to us to make the future medication or update ourselves. You can say that the responsible of the project would not have been able to finish this project without the help of our president. Sincere thanks.

2) Three of our members died recently. They are : Jean Cauchon, priest; Noël Mercier and Ubald Mercier. Also, Mrs. Thérèse Bouffard has left us. Well-known amongst us who are always at the general annual meeting. Her generosity will be missed. She was giving us each year a painting for our annual reunions. She was the wife of Robert Mercier (646), former president and genealogist that was very much implicated in the compilation of the useful data to the realization of the genealogical dictionary.

It has been a little while that we put in the necrologies of the Mercier that were member, a few information about their family and their career. No need to say that we need the collaboration of the families implicated. We count on them for relevant information. We will published them as soon has received them. The genealogy is written inside

under the title: They were amongst. You will find complementary information.

3)The election of the member of the executive committee was at the agenda at the last reunion. Everyone was reelected at the same position.

One of the decision that was taken at this meeting was to offer to members, at each publication, a page to present their family of their career. Everyone has to give texts and photos. If the response is greatly than expected, modality will made, until then, first arrive, first serve.

4) Jean-Guy could not, for health reason, assist to the annual reunion and received his life membership certificate that was given to him by the AMAN. A “strike force” composed of the president Benoit, of two of Jean-Guy’s cousins : Jean-Louis and Roger and of Jean have presented the certificated directly at the house of Jean-Guy. A few photos in the following pages tell of the tale...

Bye,

*Jean*

## New Member

N°	Name	City	Date due
1534	Claude Mercier	Québec	2010

## Genealogy Show 2010

Genealogy Show, 26, 27 and 28 of  
February at Laurier shopping centre in  
Québec City.



# Merciers in the News

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## François-Joseph Le Mercier, Jesuit missionary

*Who did not, at school, surprised and full of admiration, with reason, by the life and devotion of the first missionaries of New France. The names of Jogues, Lalemant and Brébeuf are always in the memory as heroes and martyrs. Some others, at the same time period, did not do as much for the propagation of Christianity, and are less known. Among them, François-Joseph Le Mercier, priest, Jesuit. Let recognize that even if he had devotion, he had one major default : he died of old age under the warm tropical sun of the Martinique at age 86. The following text, was excerpts from the Biographic dictionary of Canada and let us know a bit about him.*

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**François-Joseph Le Mercier**, priest, Jesuit, missionary in the Huron country and superior-general of the missions in New France; b. 3 Oct. 1604 in Paris, son of Paul Le Mercier, goldsmith and valet to the king, and of Marie Du Jardin; d. 12 June 1690 in Martinique.

He was admitted into the noviciate of the Society of Jesus on 22 Oct. 1622 in Paris. All the early part of his religious career was spent in Paris, where after his noviciate he followed the philosophy and theology courses at the Collège de Clermont; he also taught for four years in the same college. He was ordained priest in 1633, sailed to New France as soon as his training as a Jesuit was completed, and reached Quebec 20 July 1635. Three days later he set off by canoe for the Huron country, which he reached on 13 August.

At that period the missionaries usually lived at Ihonatiria (Saint-Joseph I), under the authority of Jean de Brébeuf. Under this pioneer missionary Father Le Mercier obtained a working knowledge of the language and had his first experience of the apostolate. He was named "Chaüosé" by the Hurons, and was immediately and conspicuously successful in the study of their language. The missionaries lived in bark lodges built after the manner of the country. The chapel itself was in a similar style. Eating, reading, or conferring together squatting on the ground, without furniture, without blankets, sleeping fully dressed on mats, the Jesuits lived in every respect after the Indian fashion. From Ihonatiria they spread out into the neighbouring villages; frequently they were unwelcome guests of the natives, lodging in their tents, distressed by the promiscuity, filth, and smoke, and annoyed by the dogs. Their food was that of the Indians, *sagamité*, a liquid paste made of water and crushed maize, and sometimes flavoured with overripe or dried fish. Pumpkins, declared excellent by the Jesuits, were an important part of the menu. Maize and pumpkins were the principal foods grown by the Hurons, in fields which they maintained adjoining their villages and abandoned every ten years or so when they shifted their dwellings. Meat and fresh fish were rare, hunting and fishing being only spasmodic and very seldom productive. On the missionary journeys the Hurons themselves provided the priests with food, not without receiving in payment small objects, knives, awls, and so on, which the fathers always had with them. At the central residence the servants tilled the soil in Indian fashion and went hunting or fishing for the Jesuits.

The French missionaries adapted themselves well to the Indian style of habitation and food, but they also were liable to

be struck down by the epidemics which afflicted the Hurons at that time. Father Le Mercier was designated as a male nurse, which gave him a good deal of work in 1636. The following year, because of these same illnesses, the hostility of the Hurons became so intense that in their councils they decided upon a general massacre of the missionaries. At the same time Brébeuf was attending to the establishment of a new post, Ossossanë, which in 1637 became the second main base of operations for the apostles. Le Mercier was put in charge of it. It was at Ossossanë that Brébeuf presided at the farewell banquet that was to precede the Jesuits' death. He drafted the admirable letter of 28 Oct. 1637, which all the fathers signed and in which he proclaimed the firmness and resignation of all in face of death. The threat was not put into effect at that time, but the maltreatment continued until 1640, and Father Le Mercier himself was personally attacked and narrowly escaped being burned. His courage and eloquence saved him on that occasion.

With the arrival of Father Jérôme Lalemant as superior of the mission, on 28 Aug. 1638, the missionary technique was to change. Until then the missionaries had lived among the Hurons, at Ossossanë, where Father Lalemant resided for a while, and at Teanaostaiaë (Saint-Joseph II), which Brébeuf had chosen in the spring of 1638 instead of Ihonatiria. Father Lalemant had a census made of the Huron villages, whose population amounted to about 12,000 souls. Then he decided to concentrate the missionaries in an isolated residence, Fort Sainte-Marie, which was built in 1639 on the land where Midland, Ontario, now stands. The Jesuits were to radiate from this centre in their journeys through the Huron villages. As minister and procurator, Father Le Mercier certainly had a great part in the building of this post, but he did not neglect the apostolate on that account. His great facility in the Huron language frequently took him away from Saint-Marie in the early years, the domestic tasks being left to Fathers Isaac Jogues and Pierre Pijart. However, as the missionaries' residence became a regular rallying point for the Christian Hurons, Father Le Mercier was able to exercise his ministry among them without moving from the spot. It was he who not only watched over the administration of the house but also was responsible for the neophytes who were passing through. As early as 1642 Father Lalemant realized that he would have to divide up the apostles further, and disperse them among the villages in small, firmly knit groups. Sainte-Marie-des-Hurons



remained a centre for retreats and rest, where the fathers came for meditation and the recovery of their strength, and where the Indians came to complete their instruction and receive baptism in more solemn ceremonies than elsewhere. Father Le Mercier presided over all this. He also supervised the *domnés* and the servants, who were busy with household tasks, with tilling the fields, hunting, and fishing, as well as being concerned with the defence of the establishment if necessary. Under his general direction “the soil was cleared and planted, livestock and poultry were brought up from Quebec, by dint of unbelievable efforts. The new establishment became an important farm. Harvests, hunting, fishing and trading were sufficient after a few years to support the community, the *domnés* and the servants” (Rochemonteix, I, 396). Father Le Mercier thus lived at the central residence under the two superiorships of Fathers Jérôme Lalemant and Paul Ragueneau.

It is known that the Iroquois, in 1648–49, embarked upon the systematic destruction of the Huron nation. After the martyrdom of Fathers Jean de Brébeuf and Gabriel Lalemant in the spring of 1649, the surviving Hurons begged the priests to emigrate with them to the Île Saint-Joseph (Christian Island). Fathers Ragueneau and Le Mercier agreed, and burned their residence at Sainte-Marie on 14 June 1649. They built a similar one on the island, with the same name. Despite Father Le Mercier’s administrative foresight, the following winter ended in a deprivation beyond belief; this, combined with the latest Iroquois forays on the mainland, forced the missionaries and a fair proportion of the Hurons to go down and take refuge near Quebec in 1650.

Father Le Mercier, back from the Huron country, resided during the subsequent years in Quebec. In 1652 he was engaged in obtaining help for the Trois-Rivières settlement, which was threatened by the Iroquois. Despite the opinions of the settlers themselves, he had fortifications put up which made it possible, in 1653, to hold off 500 Iroquois who had sworn to destroy the post. On 6 Aug. 1653 news came of his appointment as rector of the Collège at Quebec and superior-general of the missions in New France. It was in this capacity that he was to take part in the peace negotiations with the Iroquois. He did not hesitate to share himself the dangers to which he exposed his subordinates by sending them among the Indians. On 11 May 1656 he designated Father Jérôme Lalemant vice-superior of the mission, until such time as the general of the Jesuits named his successor; Father Jean de Quen was to replace him during the summer. As for Le Mercier himself, in May he joined the missionary expedition to the Iroquois country, organized following the embassies of Father Simon Le Moyne to the Onondaga country. The Iroquois named Father Le Mercier “Teharonhiagannra.” His absence lasted a year. On 1 June 1657 he was back in Quebec, which he left again on the 27<sup>th</sup> of the same month, possibly intending to return once more among the Iroquois. However, Father Ragueneau, who had left Quebec a few days before him and whom it was desired at that time to keep at a distance from the place of government, was the only one to accompany the expedition beyond Montreal;

Father Le Mercier returned to Quebec and concerned himself with various missionary labours.

On 6 Aug. 1665 Father Le Mercier was once again appointed rector and superior-general of the missions. This second mandate was to be attended by the revival of the Jesuit missions both among the Iroquois and among the Ottawas of the region around the Sainte-Marie falls (Sault Ste. Marie). At the same period Father Marquette was preparing the expedition that was destined to make him famous. The Laprairie area near Montreal was opened up for colonization by the superior. After six years Father Le Mercier was relieved of his burden and became *primarius*, that is to say prefect of the College at Quebec. But he held this post for only a year, being recalled to France by the provincial of Paris in the summer of 1672.

Father Paul Oliva, the general of the Society of Jesus, had in fact been considering the already veteran missionary, with a view to entrusting to him the reorganization of the French Jesuit missions in the West Indies, which were at the height of an internal crisis. In 1673 the superior of these missions was recalled to France and Father Le Mercier was sent to replace him, with the responsibility of visiting all the missionaries in the general’s name. The visitor assumed his duties on 17 Dec. 1673, had a look at all the missions, smoothed out the difficulties, and was finally appointed superior-general on 12 Oct. 1674. This new superiorship ended only on 26 March 1681, the date on which Father Le Mercier was replaced by Father Martin Poincet. The former superior was spiritual director and confessor in Martinique for a year, and was also given the responsibility for directing the Jesuits of that island; he held this from 1682 until his death in his eighty-sixth year.

Father Le Mercier has left a good deal of written material, mostly incorporated into the *Relations des Jésuites* series. They consist of letters or extracts of letters, but also of several relations or parts of relations drawn up in his hand. In 1637 and 1638 Jean de Brébeuf was already entrusting to him the task of writing the relation of the Huron mission. He likewise drafted the annual reports sent to France during his years as superior. His style is clear, precise, lively, reflecting the man of action and the zealous missionary that he was.

#### Lucien Campeau

Archivum Romanum Societatis Iesu, Codex Franc. 22, 23, Catalogues annuels des maisons et des personnes de la province de France; Codex Gal. 109, I, 134–35, 144, 159–60, 164, 204–5, 237–38, 261–62, 264–65, 266–67, 280–1, 286–87, 315, Lettres originales. *JR* (Thwaites). François Elesban de Guilhermy, *Ménologe de la Compagnie de Jésus . . . Assistance de France, comprenant les missions de l’Archipel, de l’Arménie, de la Syrie, . . . du Canada, de la Louisiane . . .*, éd. Jacques Terrien (2 pts., Paris, 1892), I, 727–28. Rochemonteix, *Les Jésuites et la Nouvelle-France au XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle*, I, II, *passim*.

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# Eugène Mercier — The Champagne Mercier

***L**e Mercien has already presented in the number 4 of vol. 15, a brief article in the Paris Match on the creator of the Champagne Mercier. The text, entirely excerpts from Wikipedia, gives us the opportunity to know better the founder of this famous label and some of their history.*

Eugène Mercier (1838-1904) is the founder of the champagne “Mercier”.

illegitimate child, he doesn't know his father. His mother, Jeanne, work at the Laundromat and after at the groceries store. Eugène also, has to wake up early in the morning. As his mother, he saved penny by penny to make is dream come true : Create a wine house specialized in Champagne of quality available to everyone at affordable price.

In 1858, at age 20, the dream come true. Installed in Épernay, the “Maison Mercier” is small and the young entrepreneur join a group of owner in the same business area. One of them is “La Maison de Champagne Bourlon” founded by his father-in-law, Philippe Bourlon.

## **The “caves” (basement) Mercier**

In 1871, Eugène begins to dig gigantic caves. He to the architect: “count in kilometers not in meters!” The caves are 18 kilometers on a single level and it communicates with the train that make the Paris-Strasbourg line. This way, it will be easy to transport the champagne.

The inauguration is in the news. The project is very big for the time. During the opening, the caves are visited by a coach with white horses.

In 1885, the caves are opened to the public. The owner installed electric equipment, which is very futuristic for

that time period. A steam machine was also installed to light the installation.

In 1891, the president Sadi Carnot will also visit the installation. A 100 000 candles will be lighted for this occasion.

## **The biggest barrel on Earth**

Also in 1871, Mercier will begin the construction of the biggest barrel on Earth. It will take 16 years to build. It can hold 160 000 liters, the equivalent of 213 000 of champagne and weighting 20 tons. In 1887, its waterproofing is tested during the year's vintage.

For the universal exposition of 1889, Eugène Mercier begins to move is barrel to Paris. Moved by 24 white beefs. To arrive in Paris in time, he has to buy houses along the road and destroy them. Three weeks will be necessary to arrive to destination. The crowd and the press is overwhelmed. The notoriety of label is at a peak. Arrive in Paris, the gates put by the municipalities will be put out to let the convoy pass. The object will be a major attraction at the universal exposition and will finish second, behind the Eiffel Tower who will win first prize. The Champagne Mercier is now well known in France as everywhere in the world. The barrel is now exposed at the Caves Mercier. The sculpture in front of the barrel is a creation of Gustave Navlet, who has also realized the low paintings in the caves.

## **Universal exposition in 1900**

In 1900, Paris is the host of the last exposition of the century. Eugène Mercier has flared the potential of the Lumière brothers. He ask them to realize a movie on the Champagne Mercier. The first publicity movie on Earth history is made, “from the grape to the cup” will be projected during this event.



Passionate of hot air balloons, Eugène Mercier has another idea to assure the publicity of his Champagne house. He gives free Montgolfier ride with free champagne degustation in the Champ the Mars, near the Eiffel Tower. You can see the logo of the Mercier Champagne from ground level. At the end of the exposition, 20 000 will have take the balloon ride.

## **Next**

Four years after, Eugène Mercier die. He is buried at the Epernay cemetery with his mother.

Today, about 15 million bottles are stocked in caves pour a annual production of 4 million bottles.

In 1970, the Maison Mercier join with Moët & Chandon. By successive venture, the brand in 1987 become under the control of LVMH, founded by Alain Chevalier (Moët-Hennessy) and Henri Racamier (Louis Vuitton)



# Merciers in the News

## Napoléon Mercier, softball player

*The totality of the information in the following article is a courtesy of Mr. Napoleon Mercier III, of Chicago (U.S.A.), son of Napoleon Mercier II of the same city.*

Softball was at the highest point of its popularity in the 1930's and Napoleon Mercier, was its shiniest star. We used and transform an article from a newspaper published on the day of the intronisation at Roseland-Pullman Area Sports Hall of Fame in 1975.

### Napoleon Mercier

Napoleon Mercier is on the greatest third basemen in 12-inch softball, died in 1955 at age 45 of a tumor on the brain.

As a youngster he played for Scanlan Playground in various sports such as indoor ball, softball, handball, volleyball, basketball, football, swimming, track and wrestling. Truly a natural all-around athlete, he won many firsts for Scanlan.

He attended Fenger High School and then St. Viator's College for a short time. His naturalness to all sports was evident. However, the game of softball was his first love.

Softball gained in greatest popularity in the 1930's, and Mercier was a part of it. As a third baseman in softball, he had no peers. He was likened to

Georges (Buck) Weaver, the great third baseman with the Chicago White Sox when they were at their best from 1917 to 1920.

Softball enthusiasts came from all over to see the slick-fielding Mercier perform.

When fielding a high bouncer in the air, he could send the ball to the first baseman while so suspended. He threw out many a batter at first while in the prone position after making unbelievable stops of hot smashes.

He was an excellent batter and base runner. A left-handed sticker, who always batted in the third position in the lineup, he could hit to all fields. Eight-foot slides on his belly into a base were a common thing for him. In 1935, he played with two champion's teams, the

Golden Eagles and Van Dun-Larroca's and was elected to the league's all-star team each year from 1930 to 1935.

He was considered by most as the most complete player in the league. His out-standing contemporaries in the league included George (Statz) Antonopoulos, George Flesvig, Andy Enrody, Cy Stewart, Mike Derkacy, Andy Warholak, Ziggy Tokarz, Leaks Mundo, Abe Lebovits, Doc Perrotti, Jack Mylan and Chuck Sember.

Regionally, Mercier played with the Larocca Colts in 1933 and 1934 in the Indiana league. The league was composed of the best teams in Illinois and Northern Indiana.

The Colts played their home games under the lights in Chicago Heights. Travelling games were

played under the lights in Gary.

The Colts placed third in 1933 and second in 1934. Mercier was selected on the league's all-star team both seasons.

Sonny also played with Lansing's Ward Indians against many south and west suburban and Northern Indiana teams in 1932, 1933 and 1934. He also was selected as the all-star third baseman in the various tournaments the Ward Indians played in.

In 1934, Sonny and Roseland's Frank (Buff) Marcolini toured the country with the Matt Ruppert All-Stars, a 12-inch softball team which won 100 games and lost only one contest that season.

Ruppert, incidently, is recognized as the greatest





“indoo” softball pitcher of all time.

Nationally from 1936 through 1939, Mercier played with the crack Roseland Merchants team. When Chuck LeRose and Buff Marcolini founded the team, they selected Mercier as their captain and third baseman.

The Merchants met the best teams in the nation. They played their home games under the lights at 115<sup>th</sup> and Halsted.

Among the teams the Merchants defeated were the Kenash from Honosha, Wis., in 1935 when they were world champions and the included champions from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan and New York. Some of the teams they played with national reputations were the Servels of Indianapolis, Auto Specialitis of St.

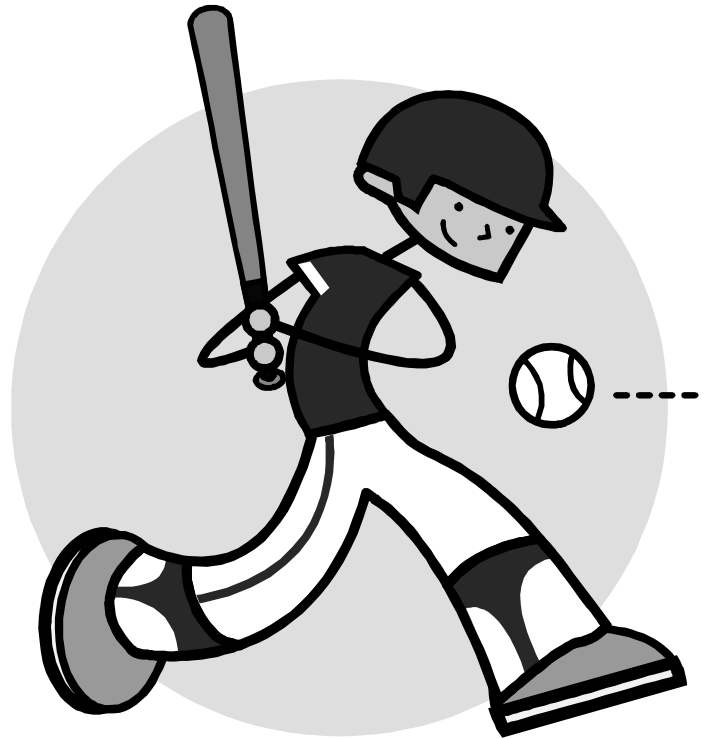


Joseph, Mich. Magic Chefs of Harvey, Match Corporation of Chicago, Litsinger Motors of Chicago, Harlem Hottentots of Chicago and Florence Stove Works of Kankakee.

Mercier batted .427 in 1935 with the Merchants. He batted .440, .451, .436 and .401 the remaining seasons. The Merchants in 1935 won 46 of 50 games.

A newspaper account during those years reveals the following : “The Roseland Merchants won their 15<sup>th</sup> game in a row. Again it was the outstanding play of Sonny Mercier at third base that helped bring this about. Mercier’s fielding at third is gaining him nationwide recognition.”

Another writeup went like this : “ In the fifth inning, Sonny Mercier, captain and third baseman of the crack Roseland Merchants, made some kind of a record when he singled, stole second, stole third and finally beat the throw home when the opposition’s catcher tried to nail him off the bag at third.”



Although given tryouts by major league baseball clubs when he was 17 and 28 years old and assured that he would make it, he returned home. He was softball crazy.

Napoleon (Sonny) Mercier was born July 17, 1910, in Roseland. He was the son and third child of the late Napoleon Mercier Sr. and the late Caroline (nee Goveir) Mercier. His sister, Dorothy, now deceased, was married to Clifford McGrath, brother of Sonny’s Merchant teammate, Tom (Muggsy) McGrath, classy first baseman. His oldest sister, Honey, died when she was 3.

Sonny and his wife, Adeline, had two sons – Napoleon III (Sonny Jr.) and Leon.

Sonny was the nephew of Ben Govier, the all-time great soccer player who entered the Hall of Fame during its initial year of 1971.

*Excerpts from: The Calumet Index*

# A Association strong from its membership

The association of Mercier of North America is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> year of existence in 2010. Mr. Ernest Mercier, le founding president of the AMAN, registered the non-lucrative society on April 19, 1985. The first issue of a 5 pages newsletter made with a typewriter is released a few days later. The president put in place a network of regional representatives to reach the most Mercier possible in each region.

The first administrative council in August 1985 is formed with : the president Ernest Mercier, the vice-presidents Paul H. Mercier, Claude L. Mercier, Jacques H. Mercier, Thérèse Mercier-Reid, Joe Mercier, Moïse H. Mercier, the secretary Collette Mercier-Dallaire, the treasurer Pyerre Mercier, the juridical counselor Jacques Mercier, the directors Alain Mercier, Henri Mercier, François Mercier, Henri Mercier, Jean-Luc Mercier, J. Roland Mercier, Laurent Mercier, Laurien Mercier, Noël Mercier, Pierre Mercier, Yvon Mercier, Louise Mercier-Soucy, Pierrette Mercier-Martin and Rachel Mercier-Doyer.

The direction's team has done everything to organize a great gathering of Mercier in 1987 in Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré, a trip to France, in the land of our ancestors, to establish the genealogy of the founding families and to recruit members.

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1985, the AMAN has 125 members. A large recruitment campaign is launch. The telephone is the tool to do it : "The most efficient way to recruit future members for the Association".

The objective is 500 members at the end of the first year of existence of the Association. At the end of June 1986, the Association has 320 members. A year later, 6000 letters are send to Merciers' Addresses to invited them to join the AMAN and to participate to the gathering of Merciers.

The gathering of August 1987 is a great success. 1100 members are registered and, a year later, almost 100 more members add up to this total to reach the 1193 registered members. At the occasion of the gathering, the president, Ernest Mercier present its book "*Mercier depuis des siècles*" a kind of bible to the great family.

In 1988, 42 persons make the historic and touristic voyage "characterized with exchange, humor and fraternity" (2) in England and France with Ernest Mercier has guide. A commemorative plate in homage to Jullian Mercier is unfold in the church of Tourouve. The Mercien mentioned, a year later after the gathering, the 400 members did not renewed their subscription... A year later, the president talk of a "catastrophic fall of the membership and is asking why they do not renew".

In April 1990, the Mercien publish the register of member from their geographic birth place. We learn that less 10% of 364 members are American. The provinces other that Quebec count for 11%. Alberta is the principal source of recruitment other than Quebec. In Quebec, the great region of Quebec City is about half the member of the association.

At the beginning of the year 1999, the administrative council launch the campaign VISION 2000 to consolidated the AMAN. Its membership is waving between 300 et 400 members during the decade 1990. "Most of the Mercier families in North America, have received more than 8000, have received on the financial Campaign..." (3)

For almost 10 years, the number of active members is holding around 250. On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, the Association had 220 members. 91 women and 119 men and sorted geographically this way :

Québec: 44  
Chaudière-Appalaches: 39  
Montérégie: 25  
United States: 23  
Montréal: 18  
Mauricie: 11  
Lanaudière: 9  
Estrie: 6  
Laurentide: 6  
Ontario : 6  
Bas-Saint-Laurent: 5  
Alberta: 4  
Laval: 4  
Gaspésie: 4  
Outaouis: 4  
Mauricie: 3  
Abitibi: 2  
British Columbia: 2  
Saguenay: 2  
Côte-Nord: 1  
France: 1  
Mexico: 1

The great region of Quebec City and the United States keep their relative position from the membership drop of the 1990. But, we can see an important diminution in the membership in other Canadian provinces and a under representation of the Montreal region. We can also see that 22 Merciers proclaim to be of English language.

The words of Pierre-Paul in is editorial of number 2, volume 21 in 2005 are still valid :

"We are lucky to have a association that still exist even after these tough times and even if we are of the eldest in Quebec. Even if many associations are born since 20 years, a large number of them have disappeared because of the lack of volunteers to assure the continuity.

Let's preserve what we have by recruiting new members and sponsors for the Mercien".

**Gilmond Mercier**

<sup>1</sup> Le Mercien, Volume 1, number 4, November 1985

<sup>2</sup> Idem, Volume 4, number 4, October 1988

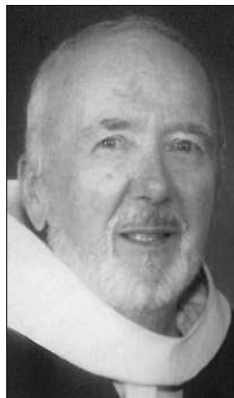
<sup>3</sup> Idem, Volume 16, number 3, Fall 2000



# They were with us...

## Jean Cauchon, priest

Jean CAUCHON, priest 1917 - 2009 C. S. S. S. of Granit de Lac-Mégantic, Saturday, October 31, 2009, at the age of 92 and 2 months, died Jean Cauchon priest, son of the late Mrs. Alice Mercier and of the late Mr. Alphonse Cauchon, from Lac-Mégantic.



His brother and sisters : Léon, Madeleine (Paul Genest), Jeanne are left to mourn. He also leave to mourn his stepbrother André Baribeau and stepsister Margaret Gillies. He also leave his nephews, nieces, cousins and many friends and colleague priests of the Diocese of Sherbrooke. Jean as is rejoining Edouard, Paul, Cécile, Gérard, Marguerite, Eugène and Hélène.

## Ubald Mercier



At the CSSS des Sources, Asbestos QC, on November 2009, has died M. Ubald Mercier, at the age 87. Husband of Mrs. Gertrude Maheux from Asbestos.

Other than his wife, Mr. Mercier leave to mourn his children : Alain (Mildred Noble), Absestos; Ginette (Denis Larocque), Drummondville; Claude (Manon Giroux), l'Annonciation; Yvan (Sylvie Picard), Danville. His grandchildren : Steve, Mélanie, Maxime, Audry, Solène, Alexandre, Véronick, Daniel, Claudia. His great grandchildren: Samuel, Mégane, Melly-Jane, Emeric, Eliot, Edouard, Anthony. His sisters : Mrs. Rose-Hélène Mercier (Normand Olivier), Mrs. Louiselle Mercier (Léopold Lefebvre). His stepbrothers and stepsisters : Mr. Adolphe Maheux, Mr. Romain Maheux (Réjeanne), and many parents and friends.

## Lineage of Jean Cauchon

-1-

Jullien Mercier, born in Tourouvre, France on February 27, 1621, son of François and Roberte Cuvilleau married to Marie Poulain (Claude and Jeanne Mercier) on January 18, 1654 in Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré, Montmorency;

-2-

Pascal Mercier, son of Jullien and Marie Poulain married to Anne Cloutier (Jean and Marie Martin) on November 11, 1681 in La Visitation-de-Notre-Dame de Château-Richer church, Montmorency;

-3-

Pierre Mercier, son of Pascal and Anne Cloutier married to Marie-Madeleine Gagné (Louis and Marie Gagnon) in January 1711 in St-Joachim, Montmorency;

-4-

Pierre Mercier, son of Pierre and Marie-Madeleine Gagné married to Marie-Louise Tanguay (Jean-Baptiste and Françoise Blais) on November 9, 1744 in St-Vallier, Bellechasse;

-5-

Augustin Mercier, son of Pierre and Marie-Louise Tanguay marié à Catherine Goupil (Joseph and Anne Lacombe) on April 16, 1782 in St-Michel, Bellechasse;

-6-

Pierre Mercier, son of Augustin and Catherine Goupil married to Marie-Anne Dandurand (Jacques and Denyse Morin) on February 8, 1820 in St-Henri-de-Lauzon, Lévis;

-7-

Augustin Mercier, son of Pierre and Marie-Anne Dandurand Marcheterre, married to Eléonore Côté (Étienne and Brigitte Vien) on February 7, 1854 in the St-Vital Lambton church, Frontenac;

-8-

Augustin Mercier, son of Augustin and Eléonore Côté, married to Félixine Turgeon (Narcisse and Angèle Goulet) on April 12, 1881 at St-Vital Lambton church, Frontenac;

-9-

Alice Mercier, daughter of Augustin and Félixine Turgeon married to Alphonse Cauchon (Alphonse and Rosa Comète) on July 3, 1916 in Lac-Mégantic, Frontenac;

-10-

**Jean Cauchon**, priest, son of Alphonse and Alice Mercier, born in Lac-Mégantic, Frontenac, on August 5, 1917, deceased in Lac-Mégantic, Frontenac, on October 31, 2009.



## Noël Mercier 1912 - 2009

At hôpital Laval (IUCPQ), on November 18, 2009, at age 96 and 11 months, died Mr. Noël Mercier, husband of Mrs. Germaine Morin.

He leave to mourn his wife Mrs. Germaine Morin, his children: Alain (Anne Tardif), Denis (Jacinthe Brasseur), Claire (Gilles Samson), his grandchildren: Nicolas (Mélanie Harvey), Patrick (Geneviève Riopel), Carine, Audrey, Olivier, Anne-Marie, Florence, many nephews and nieces et friends.



## Thérèse Bouffard Mercier 1928 to 2009

In Salaberry of Valleyfield, on December 5, 2009, at age 81 ans, died Mrs. Thérèse Bouffard, wife of Mr. Robert Mercier, resident of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield.

Other than her husband, she leave to mourn her children Estelle (Jacques), Pierre (Micheline), Ginette (Christian), Claude (Manon), Alain (Ginette), her grandchildren: Pascal, Benoit, Mélanie, Annabelle, Yhan, Jonathan, Sébastien, Sandra, Marc-Olivier, Édith, Anne-Marie and Marie-France, her 20 great grandchildren, her brothers and sisters Réjeanne, Jean-Guy, André, Yves Elisabeth and Rose-Aimée, her stepbrothers and stepsisters, her nephews and nieces, and many parents and friends.

Thérèse and Robert got married on September 7, 1948. Thérèse was a artist-paint who since 1995 has offer generously to the AMAN each year, at the occasion of assembly of the members, a work of heart of her creation to draw for the benefit of the Association.

Robert is an honorary lifetime member of the AMAN since 1995. He is a precursor of the genealogical data bank.

They both have our gratitude.



## Genealogical lineage of Noël Mercier

-1-

Jullien Mercier, born in Tourouvre, France on February 27, 1621, son of François and Roberte Cuvilleau, married to Marie Poulain (Claude and Jeanne Mercier) on January 18, 1654 in Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré, Montmorency;

-2-

Pascal Mercier, son of Jullien and Marie Poulain, married to Anne Cloutier (Jean and Marie Martin) on November 11, 1681 at de La Visitation-de-Notre-Dame de Château-Richer church, Montmorency;

-3-

Pascal Mercier, son of Pascal and Anne Cloutier, married to Madeleine Boucher (Jean and Marie-Madeleine Paré) on February 16, 1705 in St-Joachim, Montmorency;

-4-

Joseph Mercier, son of Pascal and Madeleine Boucher, married to Elisabeth «Carrier» Lebrun (Noël and Anne Brochu) on January 30, 1729 at St-Philippe and St-Jacques de St-Vallier church, Bellechasse;

-5-

Pascal Mercier, son of Joseph and Elisabeth «Carrier» Lebrun, married to Marie-Thècle Fortier (Clément and Françoise Labrecque) October 19, 1766 in St-François-de-la-Rivière-du-Sud (Montmagny);

-6-

Pascal Mercier, son of Pascal and Marie-Thècle Fortier, married to Reine Morin (Jacques and Reine Godin) on November 14, 1809 at St-François-de-la-Rivière-du-Sud (Montmagny);

-7-

Edouard Mercier, son of Pascal and Reine Morin, married to Rose Délima Buteau (Augustin and Marie Blais) on April 5, 1853 at Église Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption of Berthier-sur-Mer (Montmagny);

-8-

Joseph Mercier, son of Edouard and Rose Délima Buteau, married to Anna Blais (Jacques and Hermine Blais) on February 17, 1903 in St-Pierre-de-la-Rivière-du-Sud, Montmagny;

-9-

Noël Mercier, son of Joseph and Anna Blais, married to Germaine Morin (Amédée and Eva Caron) on September 12, 1946 in St-Pierre-de-la-Rivière-du-Sud, Montmagny.

Noël born in Berthier-sur-Mer, Montmagny on December 1912 and deceased in Québec City on November 18, 2009.

**Descendants :** Denis, Alain, Claire

## A look back...

A photo of the annual general assembly, that we received a bit too late for our last newsletter, but that we cannot ignore because we can see the face of a loving person, who, for many years, has offered a painting from her composition. Sincere thanks to Mrs. Thérèse Bouffard.



Below, the “commando” formed of Benoît, Jean-Louis, Roger and Jean to give to Jean-Guy, at his residence, a life-time membership honorary certificate. Congratulations and thank you Jean-Guy!



*Benoît, Jean-Guy, Jean-Louis, Roger.*



*Benoît, Jean-Guy and Jean.*

## Sincere thanks to those who have renewed their subscription Subscriptions received between October 1<sup>st</sup> et le December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009

N°	NAMES	YEAR DUE
1455	Madeleine Boutin	2010
489	Marius Mercier	2011
1526	Ghislaine Mercier	2011
1506	Marielle Mercier	2010
458	Béatrice Mercier	2012
5	François Mercier	2010
387	Jeannine Mercier	2011
1491	Claude Mercier	2010
871	Jacques Mercier	2010





WOO HOO!!!  
 IT'S NEVER TOO LATE  
 TO TASTE THE SIRUP  
 TO TASTE MAPLE SIRUP... HUMMM!



**WHEN:** SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010 from 10:00 am to 4:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** ÉRABLIÈRE RÉAL BRUNEAU  
 830, ROUTE 277, SAINT-HENRI-DE-LÉVIS

**HOW TO GET THERE:** VIA AUTOROUTE 20, EXIT 325 SOUTH  
 PINTENDRE DIRECTION, ROUTE 277  
 (Approximately 30 minutes of the Pierre-Laporte bridge)  
 The shack is visible from route 277

- MENU:**
- Diner, French-canadian food, all you can eat
  - Bring your wine if you want
  - Maple toffee on snow as much as you want
  - Horse slay ride
  - French canadian music and animation

**COST:** - 0 to 3 years: free - 4 to 10 years: \$10 - 11 years and more: \$20  
 You pay when you arrive at the shack.

**PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR PRESENCE BEFORE APRIL 3, 2010 TO:**  
 Gilmond Mercier 418-383-3441 ou gilmondm@sogetel.net  
 Louise Mercier 418-877-9737 (Québec City region)  
 Germain Nappert 450-437-1220 (Montreal region)

Be with us on this year of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Association of Mercier of North America (AMAN). Be advise that it is not necessary to be a member of the association to go to the maple sugar shack party. Hope to see you there!



# Necrologies

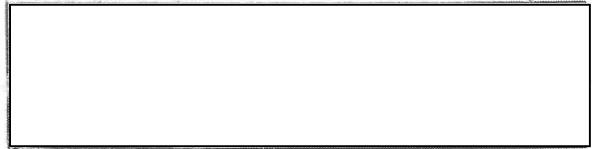


## Our deepest condolences to families

- Alice Mercier (née Reid) de Valleyfield décédée le 16 novembre 2009.
- Cécile St-Pierre de Sherbrooke et antérieurement de Windsor, décédée le 11 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 64 ans. Elle était la conjointe de *Noël-Ange Mercier* et la fille de Frédéric St-Pierre et Marie-Rose Larochelle.
- Claire Mercier Girard de Baie Comeau et antérieurement de Châteaux-Outardes, décédée le 26 octobre 2009 à l'âge de 84 ans. Elle était l'épouse de Clarence Girard.
- Diane Mercier, avocate de Montréal, décédée le 14 octobre 2009 à l'âge de 55 ans. Elle était l'épouse de Wayne Lindsay et la fille de Marie Mercier.
- Donald Roy de Fort Coulonge, décédé le 14 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 79 ans. Il était l'époux de Lucienne Mercier.
- Francine Mercier de Farnham, décédée le 7 septembre 2009 à l'âge de 58 ans. Elle était la conjointe de Benoit Desmarais.
- Gisèle Mercier de Dixville, décédée le 23 octobre 2009 à l'âge de 67 ans. Elle était l'épouse de Gaétan Bélanger.
- Guillaume Mercier de Montmagny, décédé le 18 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 31 ans. Il était le fils de Raymond Mercier et Bernadette Lepage.
- **Guy Desaulniers** de Gatineau, décédé le 19 octobre à l'âge de 84 ans. Il était l'époux de Fernande Mercier et le fils d'Adélar Desaulniers et Angéline Jacques.
- Huguette Mercier de Sherbrooke, décédée le 19 octobre 2009 à l'âge de 83 ans. Elle était l'épouse de Camille Gagné et la fille de Grégoire Mercier et Rosilda Fortier.
- Henriel Mercier de Saint-Georges de Beauce, décédé le 19 septembre 2009 à l'âge de 70 ans. Il était l'époux de Lise Mercier et fils de Rose-Alma Veilleux.
- Irène Turcotte de St-Paul-de-Montminy, décédé le 10 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 76 ans. Elle était l'épouse de *Joseph Mercier*.
- Jean Cauchon, prêtre de Lac Mégantic, décédé le 31 octobre 2009 à l'âge de 92 ans. Il était le fils de Alphonse Cauchon et *Alice Mercier* et membre à vie de l'AMAN (voir *Ils étaient des nôtres*).
- Jean-Louis Denis de Montréal, décédé le 24 octobre 2009 à l'âge de 83 ans. Il était l'époux de *Monique Mercier*. M. Denis a fait carrière dans les Forces Aériennes Canadiennes.
- Jean Mercier de Shawinigan, décédé le 27 octobre 2009 à l'âge de 85 ans. Il était l'époux de Estelle Lefebvre.
- Joseph Mercier de Laval, décédé le 1<sup>er</sup> octobre 2009 à l'âge de 94 ans. Il était l'époux de Marie-Claire Gosselin.
- Laurence Rochette Mercier de Québec et anciennement de Chicoutimi, décédée le 4 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 79 ans. Elle était la conjointe de Roger Mercier et la fille de Eugène Rochette et de Éva Métivier.
- Lise Mercier de Montréal, décédée le 28 novembre à l'âge de 61 ans. Elle était l'épouse de Robert Sylvestre.
- Louis-Georges Mercier de Trois-Rivières, décédé le 22 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 76 ans. Il était l'époux de Paulette Juneau.
- Lucienne Aubin de Palmarolle, décédée le 12 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 85 ans. Elle était l'épouse de *Paul-Émile Mercier*.
- Lucienne Jolin Mercier de Lac Etchemin et autrefois de St-Luc de Bellechasse est décédée le 28 octobre 2009 à l'âge de 93 ans. Elle était l'épouse de Sauveur Mercier.
- Marcel Prévost de Weedon, décédé le 21 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 85 ans. Il était l'époux de *Laura Mercier*.
- Noël Mercier de Québec, décédé le 18 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 96 ans. Il était l'époux de Germaine Morin. Noël a été un des premiers membre de l'AMAN (no 3. Son fils Denis est également membre (voir *Ils étaient des nôtres*)).
- Paul-André Breton de Val d'Or, décédé le 19 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 77 ans. Il était l'époux de *Yolande Mercier*.
- Pierrette Mercier de la communauté des Sœurs de Notre-Dame du Perpétuel Secours, décédée le 2 décembre à l'âge de 78 ans à St-Damien. Elle était la fille de Napoléon Mercier et Anne-Marie Giguère, de Beauport.
- Robert Mercier de Trois-Rivières, décédé à l'âge de 70 ans. Il était le fils de Guy Mercier et Pauline Auger.
- Rolland Loiselle de Cowansville, décédé le 4 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 91 ans. Il était l'époux de *Marie-Jeanne Mercier*.
- Suzanne Mercier (née Chartrand) de Laval, décédée le 29 octobre 2009 à l'âge de 87 ans. Elle était l'épouse de *Charles É. Mercier*
- Ubald Mercier d'Asbestos, décédé le 11 novembre 2009 à l'âge de 87 ans. Il était l'époux de Gertrude Maheux. Ubald était membre de l'AMAN (949) (voir *Ils étaient des nôtres*)

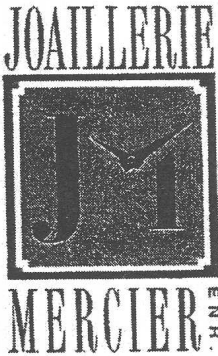


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