May 7, 1977 St. Anselm's College

Registration began at 9:A.M. at the Perini Science Building with a beginner's class at 10:A.M. conducted by Lucille Lagasse while other members researched in the Olivier Library Collection.

The meeting opened at about 11:A.M. with a greeting by our President, Lucille Lagasse, to a grand attendance of over one hundred persons. There were at least eighteen new members who signed in on this day. Mrs. Lagasse told the members of the Library Collection being transferred to her home at 90 Elm Street, Goffstown, N.H. where they shall be available for the members. The Pellerins were in the process of moving to a new location.

Dick Fortin, who has been instrumental in advertising our Society in newspapers, radio, etc., was presented to the members for the benefit of those who did not know of him and his efforts. Professor Roger Lawrence was also introduced to members as the founder of our Society since some members had not met with him previously.

Our first main speaker of the day, Father Clarence J. d'Entremont of Fairhaven, Mass, was introduced and he covered early Acadian history and their genealogical records that revealed his profound knowledge of his people and their past. His sense of humor in his presentation was appreciated by a delighted audience. The first Acadian census was in 1671 and the limits of Acadia was at what is today Thomaston, Maine. Vital Statistics are very good in Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton. There are 2670 entries in volumes #23 and #24 of the Massachusetts Archives on the Acadian "neutrals". He spoke on the names of Mius d'Entremont and their possible sources. He finished his talk by introducing a "Flag of Acadia" made in needlepoint and made by Mrs. Roberta Young, daughter of Jeanette Dinwoodie. It consists of the tri-color of France with a gold star on the blue; adopted in about 1883. The gold star represents Mary, Mother of God, as Star of the Sea. The Feast of the Assumption is the Acadian feast day, thus the gold star for Mary.

Lunch time until 1:30 P.M.

Guy Dubay from Madawaska, Maine, our second main speaker, is the Principal of St. Thomas and Evangeline Schools at Madawaska. He chose as his subject "The Rationale for the Genealogist", giving us examples of how the data could be filed by means of a sound movie and accompanying remarks. We were given copies of a sixteen page work of examples of family trees entitled "Picking on the Family Tree", by Mr. Dubay.

Further research followed supper lunching until approximately 9: P. M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeannelle Dinwoodie

Recording Secretary

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