

Esau Mercer
World War I
Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland)
Service No. 726X

Born: 17 March 1888

Place of Birth: Bay Roberts

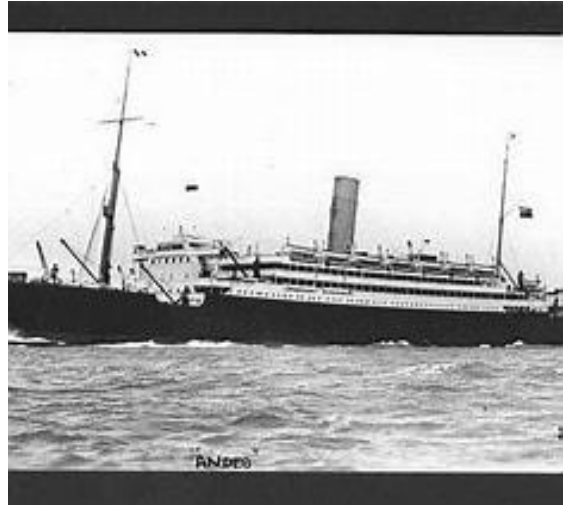
Parents: Esau and Fanny Mercer

Esau was 26 in the summer of 1914, when he made his way to the enlistment location in St. John's. The journey to get there was undertaken either by sea (ship) or by train and took at least a day or two to get there. He gave Roxbury, Massachusetts as his address upon enlistment.

His official service ledger record contains a series of handwritten entries and provides a picture of his war service by date, location and ships to which he was assigned.

The record entries are:

1. 21 Aug 14 – 05 Nov 14: **HMS Calypso** (the training vessel stationed in St. John's Harbour)
2. 06 Nov 14 – 27 Mar 15: **HMS Calyx**
3. 28 Mar 15 – 20 Apr 15: **HMS Victory 1**
4. 21 Apr 15 – 31 Jan 17: **HMS Andes**



HMS Andes

*HMS Andes was an **ocean liner** built in 1913 for the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. She was requisitioned in March 1915 and fitted with six 6-inch guns. Andes spent most of the war in 10th Cruiser Squadron, on the Northern Patrol, on duties around the Faeroe Islands and Iceland.*

5. 01 Feb 17 – 24 May 17: **HMS Pembroke 1**
6. 25 May 17 – 14 Jun 17: **HMS Triton**
7. 15 Jun 17 – 22 Nov 17: **HMS Albert B.???????**
8. 25 Nov 17 – 06 Jan 19: **HMCS Niobe**
9. 07 Jan 19 – 08 Apr 19: **HMS Briton**.
Shore demobilized and discharged.

It appears that in 1914 prior to enlisting, Samuel married a young lady by the name of Violet B. Parsons.

Newfoundland general census data for 1921, 1935 and 1945 provide no information for the Mercers.

It is known that that Esau and Violet had a daughter named Clarice Marie born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1923, so the assumption is that they spent their time in the United States and returned to Newfoundland in their latter years.

Margaret died in September 1965, while Esau passed in late 1981. They are buried in the New St. Matthew's Anglican Cemetery in Bay Roberts, Newfoundland.