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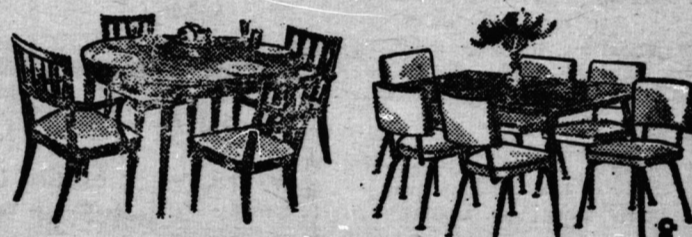
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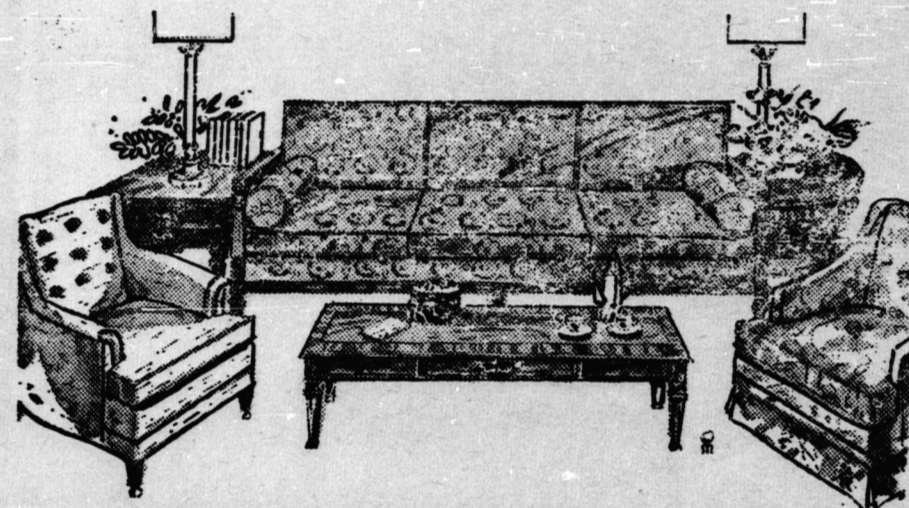
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## The International Scene

BY Raymond Canon

How To Learn A Foreign Language

Perhaps because of my teaching experience. I get more requests to explain how one should go about learning another language than any other thing. Some people have the idea that there must be an easy way and ask if I would please explain it to them. Of course, the situation is not helped by books which bear the title of "French Made Easy" or "Fluent Spanish in 6 Weeks." That is simply misleading and right at the start I would like to make it clear that there is no easy road to learning a language - in 30 lessons, 6 weeks or 5 records.

There are, however, hard ways to learn how to speak French or any other foreign language, and most people manage to latch on to the hard way, here are a few pitfalls to avoid... Don't learn long lists of vocabulary; don't spend hours at the grammar; don't get discouraged easily; don't try to memorize countless rules; don't... well, that's about enough don'ts for a while.

Now, how about a few "do's": To make it easier for yourself, try learning short lists of words and use each one in a short sentence. If you have to go into a quiet room and talk to yourself... After all, this is how people talk - in sentences, not in long vocab lists. If it is a question of learning a verb, use it in the present, past and future together with some idiom or grammar point that you are trying to master. Short, frequent periods of intensive study like this are far more efficient than long periods of trying to absorb large quantities of grammar, etc.

Think how long it took you to learn your native tongue, before you get discouraged with trying to learn another language. It takes years to learn to speak a language fluently, not six weeks, and a long time to say simple things

correctly. Consider the learning process as a long term process, not just a few months or a year, and the more you practice outside your classroom hours, the better. After all, how much more time do you actually get to speak in class? Not very much, I'll bet! With the size of the class, it's just impossible. I've seen hundreds of kids who just gave up because, as they said, they just could not seem to speak French or Spanish and yet when I asked them how much they did outside the classroom, they just looked sheepish and muttered something that sounded like nothing.

Get a good pronunciation as soon as possible. I find that people who can say things in a foreign language which can be understood also tend to do better. Those with sloppy speech habits fall easily by the wayside. Listen carefully to your teacher but work at it. You may never lose your accent, but you avoid speaking the language, as the French so aptly say, "like a Spanish cow."

If you are studying French, get a pen-pal in Quebec and write all your letters in French. Finally, as soon as you can, spend some time with a French family, and resolve only to speak French. You will have a pretty confused time at first, trying to understand, and to make yourself understood, but at the end of two or three months of concentrated effort, you will be surprised or even astounded, at how well you speak the language.

You may wonder, now that I've given you all the advice, whether I apply it in my own family. Well, I go it one better. When my younger son was born six years ago, my wife and I decided to make him completely bilingual. It was a completely bilingual. It was a language fluently, not six weeks, and a long time to say simple things

## M.K. Glendinning Gets OWNA Award

M.K. Glendinning, publisher and founder of The News-Record, has received a Distinguished Service Award, from the Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association.

The award was presented to Mr. Glendinning "in recognition of distinguished service as a president of the association and contribution in the weekly newspaper profession."

He was elected president of the Southwestern Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association in 1958, and the following year was elected a director of the Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association.

In 1967 Mr. Glendinning was elected president of the provincial organization.

Mr. Glendinning was born in Swan River, Manitoba, and took where his grandfather, the late Henry Glendinning, founded the Swan River Star and Times in 1900.

The local publisher's father, the late William Glendinning, purchased the newspaper at Morden about 10 years later.

In 1919 the family sold the Morden newspaper and purchased the Parry Sound Canadian in Ontario. On the death of Mr. Glendinning Sr. the newspaper was sold and M.K. Glendinning and his family came to Southwestern Ontario.

He established The News-Record in Delhi in 1939, and was joined by his brother, H. V. Glendinning about a year later.

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