

# 'Housecleaning men's work, too' - Sabia

By ANI FEDERIAN  
Herald Staff Writer

Laura Sabia was 12 when the statute books of Canada said no woman or idiot should be allowed to vote. Today, she's 65, and though women have the vote, in many respects they haven't come all that far, the feminist and political activist said Monday night.

Speaking to a Women of

Halton Action Movement dinner in Oakville last week at which Acton's Peggy Balkind was honored, Mrs. Sabia said all her efforts have barely made a difference to Canadian laws.

"Still today, the most important recommendations of the Royal Commission for the Status of Women haven't been reached," Mrs. Sabia said. "They came out in

1970, and still, here we are, 1982, and no denials have been made except in the area of property laws. For every two steps we've taken forward, we've taken three backward."

ONLY 75 The emphasis on cleaning, on being in the home is an attitude that remains strong, she said. Although there are converted men who don't hold that attitude, many

still see housecleaning as women's work.

**DIRTY COLLAR** "We still have the woman with the dirty collar who feels so terribly guilty because her husband has ring-around-the-collar. If he washed his neck, there wouldn't be ring-around-the-collar," Mrs. Sabia said to the laughing approval of a nearly all-woman audience of 200.

"Or the woman with her head in the oven. Why isn't HE scrubbing the oven?" she demanded.

Society hasn't prepared young girls for the realities of life, Mrs. Sabia said, especially when it comes to marriage.

"It bothers me no end when I go to high schools and I hear little girls saying 'I'm going to get married.' That takes 25 minutes. What else are you going to do?" she asked. "Every girl who's born today is going to work 35 to 40 years of her life. Have we prepared them (our young girls) for this?"

One-third of marriages end in divorce, Mrs. Sabia noted, meaning that if a woman marries, she may sooner or later be out looking after herself and her children alone.

"The hard facts are he's not going to protect her for the rest of her life. Eventually, he's going to find firmer flesh. We haven't looked at reality," she said.

Marriage has changed completely, Mrs. Sabia noted, with today's woman coming into a period of serial marriages.

However, she said there has been some improvement in girls' attitudes, according to statistics. Today, only 75 per cent of high school girls see their future as getting married. Before, it was 90 per cent, Mrs. Sabia remarked.

Advising her audience to investigate the kind of books available at high school libraries, she said it was appalling that many are stocking up on modern romance novels. "They all end the same, at the bedroom door, and happily ever after."

Another reality women should face, besides marriage and men, is the revolution computers are bringing about.

"It worries me that men are preparing themselves for those computer jobs and we're not," Mrs. Sabia said. "Until women get involv-

ed in all areas, including politics, business and the economy, they won't get anywhere, she said. Mrs. Sabia expects that to take another two or three generations.

Noting women politicians have broken into the municipal level in fair numbers, Mrs. Sabia said they were lacking at provincial and federal levels. There are six women

MPs and eleven MPs currently.

"Surely there are enough of us able to take our place in the parliament of Canada," Mrs. Sabia said. "It's appalling that laws concerning women are made by men, just like the Roman Catholic Church, where all decisions concerning women's bodies are made by men, celibate men."

## Novral

# Museum chief pays a visit

By KAY WILSON  
Herald Correspondent

Unit 1 of Novral United Church entertained their sister unit from Grace United Church, Brampton last Thursday afternoon at the home of Kay Wilson.

Marion Laird presided and called on Mac Shaw and her daughter Marjorie Loquerquist to give the Thanksgiving devotional.

Catherine Laidlaw read the minutes and the roll call was answered by 27 ladies on the same theme.

A turkey dinner for church members is to be held on Nov. 14, with Lee Holland as guest speaker.

Dorothy McLean had dolls to dress for Christmas gifts to needy children and explained the procedure.

Guest speaker Bob Corbett general manager of the Ontario Agricultural Museum at Milton, gave a detailed account of the buildings and artifacts on the 80-acre site, since the official opening in 1976.

Life styles from the Canadian Indian to the present is there to see in the main building.

Following the speaker,

Don Crawford favored with a recitation "The touch of the Master's hand".

Dorothy McLean moved a vote of thanks to both our guests and presented them with a small token from Pine Valley Market.

Lunch was served by the hostess assisted by Agnes Miller, Mabel Terry and Ethel Webb.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Kenneth Lee of Novral, who passed away at Georgetown Hospital Oct. 15. He leaves his wife Fee Ming, daughter Jean, and two sons Robert and John, also granddaughter Elizabeth. Funeral was held at Novral Presbyterian Church with interment in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto.

The Couples Club of Novral United Church met at the home of Gord and Rosie Laidlaw last Wednesday evening.

Kent Webster, a young lawyer from Brampton, spoke to the group and conducted a question and answer period on wills and taxation. Albert and Ada Enman's group assisted Gord and Rosie with a pie and ice cream social.

A miscellaneous shower was held at the home of Kay and Spence Wilson on Sunday, in honor of Marcie McClure who was married recently.

A recipe was contributed by everyone for a recipe file, after which Florence Lyons conducted a Who's Who contest, with Joan Barnes having the lucky number.

Marcie was assisted in opening her gifts by husband Roy's sisters Nancy Harrison of Mount Albert and Norma McMaster of Toronto.

Lunch was served by the sisters assisted by Jean Robinson, Doris and Laurie Mason of Brampton and Jill Theowen of Orangeville and a social time enjoyed.

## 4-Hers off to RAWF

Twelve young Halton residents, including three from the Georgetown area, will be among the 339 4-H Club members from across Ontario testing their bovine knowledge Nov. 19 in the 36th annual Queen's Guinea competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Waiting to demonstrate the results of a year's hard work in developing an "eye for a steer" are Gerry Clarke of RR1 Georgetown and Paul Wilkinson and Brian Wingfield of RR3 Georgetown. Watch The Herald for news of their success.

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The logically-planned open interior is as exciting as the exterior design, with the whole dominated by a vaulted beamed ceiling. The open-plan living-dining room combination features an angular stone fireplace and dramatic full-height windows, flanked on either side by an island breakfast bar and a galley-style kitchen, and on the other side by the four-piece bathroom and the laundry-utility complex.  
Two triangular bedrooms are situated on the main level, with a third on the second level loft. All three bedrooms have ample closet storage facilities and excellent exposure for view and natural lighting. The loft bedroom has a vaulted ceiling and a large

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