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Great Opportunity Ah

As a centennial project, The Canadian Press asked a group of prominent women for their predictions on what the next century has in store for members of their sex. Here are their views.

By JEAN SHARP

A woman Pope . . . household computers doing the chores . . . single women raising families . . . a woman prime minister . . .

These are some of the things prominent Canadian women foresee for the next 100 years.

"I see the full acceptance of women as equal partners with men with no reservations

whatsoever—surely a woman prime minister," says Mrs. M. J. Sabia of St. Catharines, Ont., an alderman and national president of the Canadian Federation of University Women.

Mrs. Sabia, a prime mover in the campaign to get a royal commission on the status of women set up, adds:

"I see women scientists by the hundreds, doctors, lawyers, engineers, architects by the thousands. I foresee women as ministers and priests, a number of women archbishops and, dare I suggest, a woman as the Pope."

A woman Governor-General, if that post still exists, is predicted by Nazla Dane of Tor-



GRACE McINNES

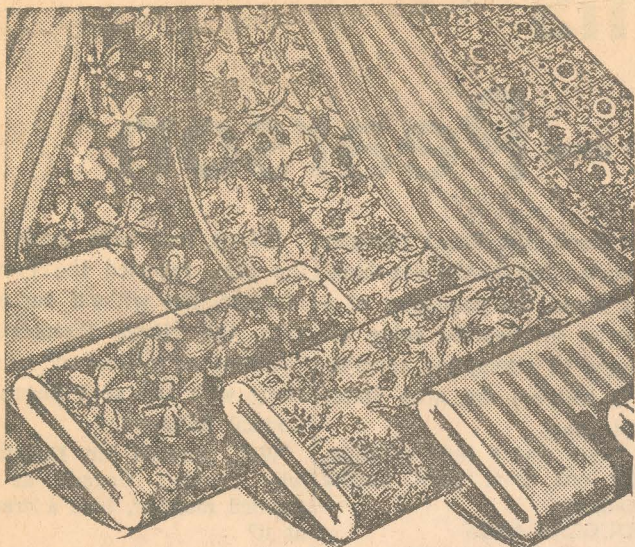


THERESE CASGRAIN



MRS. SABIA

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onto, director of the women's section of the Canadian Life Insurance Association and past-president of the Business and Professional Women's Clubs of Canada.

MORE WOMEN MPS

Miss Dane says child care centres, work hours and study hours will be organized to allow both men and women to arrange their time to best advantage.

"At times there will be more women than men elected to Parliament; sometimes there will be fewer, but on the whole no one will consider the sex of a candidate. . . . What he or she has to offer to the constituency and country will matter."

Grace MacInnis of Vancouver, a New Democratic Party MP, says day care facilities will be considered as necessary as primary schools are today and they will be located where people work.

"Women are going to become well-rounded, well-developed personalities, individuals as well as women.

"The pill is going to be one of the biggest factors in this change. It will give women control over their own bodies and lives in a way they have never had since recorded time."

Betty Kennedy, Toronto radio and TV personality, says

discrimination by age and sex will have disappeared by the time Canada celebrates its bicentennial.

"Medical advances and new knowledge will do much to do away with age barriers. There is no reason why we must look to people over 40 for responsible civic and political roles and no reason to discard qualified people automatically at 65 in many areas."

FORESEES EQUALITY

Therese Casgrain of Montreal, a Voice of Woman official and president of the Civil Liberties Union, sees the distinction between men's and women's work being erased.

"I am convinced that if women continue to take their place in the social, economic and political scene the way they are beginning to do now society will know before long a changing pattern. I hope to see the day when there will be no obstacles between men's and women's organizations but simply associations of human beings working together harmoniously for the common good."

Isobel MacAulay of Halifax, president of the Nova Scotia branch of the Progressive Conservative Women's Association, says women will have to work for their improved place.

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Century Ahead for Women



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"If we look back a hundred

years we see a tremendous change from the role of women in 1867. I feel in the future that changes will be even faster but we have to earn our place."

Senator Muriel Fergusson of Fredericton says she believes women will add something special to government.

"It would be to the country's advantage if more women were on government policy and law administration levels. Women are more humanitarian and not motivated by desire for power and money."

WILL BE MORE ACTIVE

Rejane Colas of Montreal, a lawyer and president of the Federation des femmes du Quebec, says education will speed the process of change.

"Past passiveness will be replaced progressively by a more active participation of women."

"The role of women in our society will shift and the presence of a man and a woman in the couple will not result in a man's monologue, as it has for too long, but may turn to become a dialogue between two intelligent people."

Women will have more freedom because they will have more education and more control over their reproductive functions, says Rita Cadieux,

a social worker in the social development branch of the federal office of secretary of state.

"Having smaller families and better education, their tremendous energy will be invested positively. For the first time on our continent this freedom will be given to all women and not only to the socially and economically privileged."

Mrs. C. H. Goss, president of the Regina University Women's Club, says homemaking will continue to be women's primary role, though increased mechanization will give them leisure for more self-fulfilment.

WILL STILL MARRY

Ruth Gorman, Calgary lawyer and former legal adviser to the Alberta Indian Association, agrees.

"Looking back over the last 100 years, women haven't changed their basic drives at all. They still require husbands and families and I don't think that will change over the next 100 years."

"I think you'll see more single women raising families—someone else's or their own. Morals will slip a bit, the sanctity of marriage will slip. There will be more divorces. Single women will be allowed to adopt children."

Doris Anderson, editor of Chatelaine magazine, sees

women freed completely from household chores.

"The next century will see woman's complete emancipation from household drudgery. The chief task of homemaking will be to set the programs for the modern day slave—the household computer."

"Women will be younger looking and able to eat as much as they please and not grow fat."

"Having children will be a privilege and most women will have a career of some kind. No child will be born who isn't wanted, can't be fed and looked after adequately."

FOOD WILL CHANGE

Una Abrahamson, author of God Bless Our Home, a book about domestic life in Canada 100 years ago, says there will be radical changes in food.

"In 100 years our taste in food has changed from pie three times a day to a lighter, more balanced diet. The changes of the next 100 years will be even more radical."

"Medical research, new break-throughs in nutrition and the demands of the fashion designer will all influence food choices. New technological processes will bring

greater variety to the grocery, the seasons will vary and food wastage will be minimal.

"Undoubtedly the resource of the sea will be developed and the increased speed of transportation will make supermarket a truly global change."



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