

In these sketches on the new Mississaugans, who helped and are helping in the upbuilding of a great city, it is fitting that Eleanor should come first because the work she did in promoting Centennial festivities for the township had the effect of putting Mississauga on the map — even before it was officially there.

"Look!" said Eleanor, "when you're writing about me, don't pull the bow too hard. I think I did a good job, but don't forget I had the backing of a fine committee which was functioning for over a year before I came on the scene, and we had the fullest possible cooperation from council."

VOTE UNANIMOUS

Eleanor may be right about the backing she received, but one thing I discovered was that the members of the committee, and the members of council with whom she worked, thought she was wonderful — just as I do.

She stands out. You don't need a dossier of what she has done in the past to assess her capabilities; you just need to chat with her as I did.

Mind you, a dossier of past activities would be no hindrance in making such an assessment, for her career to date has been modestly brilliant. But it wouldn't tell the whole of the story.

Eleanor was born in Toronto, but she was taken to Hanover by her parents when she was six months old and that is where she grew up. She is an adopted child. As a youngster she wanted to

be a doctor, but she was ready to compromise by being an X-ray technician because that wasn't just a "money" job; it enabled you to be of value to others.

"The idea of being an X-ray technician had a great appeal for me," Eleanor said as we chatted in her small but comfortable office in the Municipal Building, "but my parents discouraged me and urged me to take up secretarial work. The upshot was that I found a job with London Life in London."

SAD RETROTHAL

She remained with London Life for three years and then was offered a job as a civilian secretary with the RCAF. The work was more in her line, she got along well with the RCAF personnel. In addition she fell in love with a pilot and they became engaged.

There was no happy ending to the story, but tragedy instead. Her fiancé was killed when his plane crashed in 1951.

Eleanor does not say so, and I did not ask her, but I think the loss of somebody she loved very dearly prompted her to seek a more out-giving career than secretarial work offered. Be that as it may she began to interest herself in community recreation projects in Hanover, working on a voluntary basis.

Her work won attention from the authorities and it wasn't very long before she was invited to join. And in true storybook tra-