

the community program branch of the Department of Education. She subsequently took a diploma course at the University of Western Ontario and secured a municipal recreation director's certificate.

ADMIRE THE 'SENIORS'

The field of recreation into which she tumbled — and came up smiling, of course — was with the senior citizens. She was appointed organizer, dispenser of cheer and promoter of entertainment for the elderly in the Lake Huron zone, comprising the counties of Gray, Bruce, Huron,

Perth and part of Wellington. She loved it. She started six new clubs, and just to hear her talk of her experiences with the older people warms one's heart.

"I had to travel all over hell's half acre, but it was wonderful — just wonderful. Most people don't realize what a capacity for enjoyment the elderly have, nor the energy with which they tackle their projects. Dancing? Heavens, there are men and women in their seventies who can dance me off the floor."

Eleanor is 38 — a very young-looking 38. She has black hair, Grecian features, a near-olive com-

plexion and a sun-burst of a smile — particularly when she is talking of her senior citizens.

"I love them," she says. And I believe her.

Eleanor was made public relations officer for the Town of Mississauga one minute after midnight on Jan. 1. Before that, until loaned to the Centennial committee, she was assistant director of recreation on the staff of William Hare, the commissioner, and Jerry Love, director of recreation. She held this job for six years, her primary function being to organize and superintend recreational facilities for senior citizens.

Despite the new position into which she was so recently appointed, Eleanor will continue to work with senior citizens. There are two good reasons for this: they could not do without her, and she would not give them up. However, there will be no divided loyalty; she will be serving Mississaugans regardless of the hat she wears.

AN ENTHUSIAST

As you have perhaps judged Eleanor is an enthusiast no matter what she undertakes and it was no doubt this quality which enabled her to handle the Centennial projects in such magnificent fashion.

"We thought up ideas," said Mary Fix, a member of the committee, "but then we left the details and the carrying out to Eleanor. She always came through quite amazingly."

"It was a wonderful committee to work with," Eleanor said. "I quoted this. . . . Tell you the truth I couldn't have done much without Mary Beattie, my assistant . . ."

The office door was open. There were noises without — vaguely derogatory noises.

"I couldn't have either," Eleanor shouted "so don't snort."

With such a work-load, a good deal of it self-imposed insofar as her senior citizens' activities are concerned, it never occurred to me that Eleanor could find time for hobbies, but she does. One of her hobbies is cooking.

"Not the roast-beef and - Yorkshire pudding type of cooking," she explained, "but gourmet stuff. I like preparing elaborate meals and exotic dishes. I like preparing French, Italian or Chinese meals — something out of the ordinary."

She has a second hobby. It is her cottage at Inverhuron, between Port Elgin and Kincardine.

There was one obvious but difficult question I had to ask. Here was a handsome and charming woman who has already established herself in a career and I wondered whether when another Mr. Right comes along — as he surely will — she would be ready to forsake her career for marriage.

I might as well have not asked it.

"You can't have both," she said. And I am still wondering.