

She Claims Dirtiest Job

Sneezing Is Standard In Archives

EDITOR'S NOTE—The following interview with LaVerne Miller, assistant city clerk, is another in the series of stories about women in government jobs—the G-Gals.

By **BETTY PEACH**

It is possible that LaVerne Miller does not have the dirtiest job in the Civic Center, but the possibility seems remote.

It is not the quality of her job, but the dustiness of the archives that brings this observation.

Mrs. Miller is the assistant city clerk, and occupies a neat and tidy front office on the third floor of Civic Center. But behind that office is a spacious room overlooking the parking lot. There the walls are covered with deep open shelves, stacked to the ceiling with tagged, rolled blueprints.

Blueprints Fill Racks

"These are the plans for city improvements, sewers, water lines, streets and the like. Dusting them is quite a problem. They have to be kept where we can get to them handily," she explained, "but it creates a lot of sneezing in this room."

A native of North Dakota, LaVerne has resided in San Diego since 1942, when she came here to visit her brother-in-law and sister, Mrs. and Mrs. J. Don Frisby.

Visited Here First

"I had taken secretarial training in high school in my home town, Fordville . . . it's a big place of some 500 population . . . and passed a Civil Service test. Even had an appointment to a job in Washington, D. C., when I came here just for a visit. Been here since, she said.

Shortly after arriving LaVerne went to work as a department clerk for Convair, and in 1945, moved to the city government.

Processes Documents

Her office work includes preparation of the agenda for City Council meetings, making copies for all councilmen.

"We process all documents and instruments, and see that copies reach all departments affected. We handle all resolutions and ordinances, making the proper number of copies for the various agencies requiring them," she said.

She works directly for Philip Acker, city clerk, with a total of 11 in the department.

LaVerne is a member of the Municipal Employees As-



SHE CAN FIND IT—LaVerne Miller, assistant city clerk, uses a ladder on wheels to reach for one of the hundreds of city-wide blueprints.

sociation, and is director from her department. She also serves on the credit committee of the MEA credit union.

She cannot recall where she met her husband. "We just seemed to know each other, somehow, and began dating in 1950. We were married May 5, 1951, in Trinity Lutheran Church," she said.

"My husband's name is Erhard Miller, commonly known

as Joe. He has been with Convair 13 years.

"When the F-102 first started coming off the production line, every time one took off, we all went to the window to watch. Might as well—we couldn't hear anything in the room. If we were checking proofs against copy on figures, we just had to stop" she explained.

The Millers reside at 1608 Chatsworth Blvd., where she grows roses in the garden,

sews, and cooks. They own a lot on Point Loma, and are making plans to build. "And it will be a house big enough to entertain in. Now, six people fill the place" she said.

LaVerne, who is only 5-foot-2-inches tall, has more use than anybody on the staff for one piece of unusual office equipment. It is the ladder on wheels in that dusty back room. With it, she can reach the highest blueprint. And the most dust.