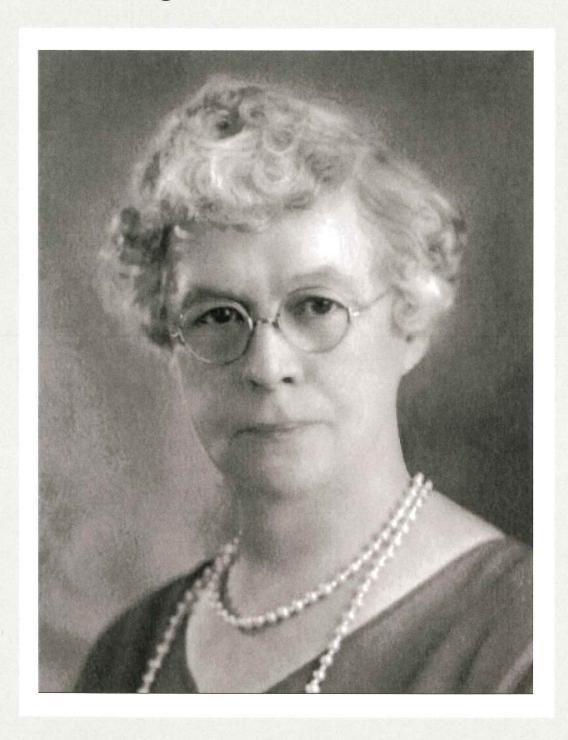
## Long Beach City Auditor Laura Doud Recognizes and Celebrates



Myrtelle Gunsul Long Beach City Auditor 1919-1951



## CITY OF LONG BEACH

LONG BEACH, GAMPORNIA March 23, 1931.

TO THE WOMER OF THE FUTURE:

To you I send Greetings as the first and only woman to occupy the elective position of City Auditor since the year 1919, in the beautiful City of Long Beach, California.

I hope that the position of women in National and City Administrations of the future shall be more clearly recognized as a great constructive force for the betterment of all.

I have blazed this trail and have endeavored to leave a record that shall be an incentive to other women. I hope that, increasingly, women shall enter into public service and instill high ideals and motives into both political and business life.

"Efficiency not Politics" has been my Motto.

Sincerely yours,

MIG:

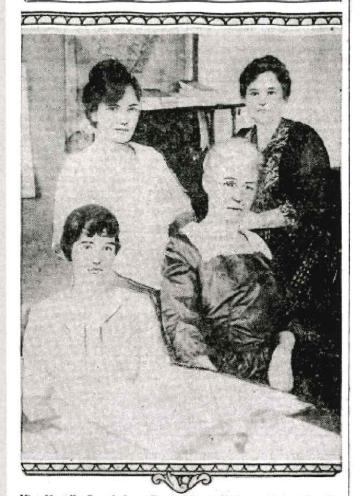
Greating enclosed in time cansule for Municipal Auditorium, placed 3.23.31, racovared week preceding March 26, 1975

Myrtelle Gunsul wrote a letter for a time capsule buried at the Long Beach Municipal Auditorium in 1931.

The time capsule was opened 44 years later in 1975, and this letter to the women of the future was discovered.

## Long Beach-and-Vicinity

GUARDIANS OF CITY BANK ROLL



Miss Myrtelle Gunsel, Long Beach City Auditor, seated at right; Miss Esther Skonberg, chief deputy, seated at left. At right, standing, Mrs. Mahel Hadfield, deputy; left, Miss Helen Barnes, clerk.

## **WOMEN HOLD** MUNICIPAL PURSE STRING

City Auditor and Her Assistants Control Entire Finances at Beach Without Extravagance

LONG BEACH, July 10 .- Women hold the purse strings of official Long Beach.

The city auditor is a woman. She is Mies Myrtaile Geneul. She has three assistants-women. They are Miss Esther Skonberg, chief deupty; Mrs. Mahel Hadfield, deputy, and Miss Helen Barnes, cierk,

The city auditing department rons the city's finances; women run the city auditing department. It's believed the only instance in the United States,

One would hardly suspect that they would disallow a bill for \$1.75 for flowers used to decorate the official automobile of the city commissioners for a parade. But that's what they did. There is nothing but business, no politics or anything, about the auditorial office. Floral firedities of mascular commissioners are not to be financed by the city, and as long as the office full of women can prevent is, they will do so, an matter how lovely the legislators looked in their posey garabled waching. alshed machine.

WOMEN NAME TAX RATE

Such a little matter as determining the city tax rate, paying the city bills and collecting delinquent taxes are up to the four women of the amilitor's office.

And despite these problems their greatest difficulty consists of moving a gigantic book weighing eighty-seven pounds. The volume contains the delinquent tax list extending over a number of years. Even making the collections pales into insignificance when it comes to transporting the book from desk to safe and back again. But between the four of them the feat is munaged all right.

Every demand upon the city must reserve the approval of lines Gunsul. Every apportionment of city funds must be unde at her office. She is a sort of super bookiespeer for the sentire city. And once every mouth every supleye of the city said at the city Hall Building and street sweepers line up along with commissioners, policemen and life guards.

WINS RE-ELECTION

WINS RE-ELECTION

And the fact that the city finances are directed in perfect fashion with a woman at the head of the department and all feminene assistants is orbiteneed in the fact that at an election a worst ago Miss Ganaul was returned to office by a vote of 7 to 1 majority over a mascultue op-ponent.

Gansal was returned to office by a vote of 7 to 1 majority over a masculine of popular.

Miss Gansal has been in city service and the same office for seven years. For a time she was deputy. Then she became chief deputy. She arowed her candidary for the position and was emmarily discharged by the masculine hand of the department. She assistanted him and her resignation reached the city commission before his notice of dismissal reached her. Then she went shead and was elected to the office.

Such matters as awarding compensation to a patrolina whose car was hitten nearly off by a city prisoner, paying for the establishing of a city damp, paying harlesh bills for city commissioners and making an inventeer of the city's property are all in the day's work.

A sign placed in a prominent position on the wall of the office says, "Businessa."



"Efficiency, Not Politics."

Myrtelle Gunsul's motto

"Actions speak louder than words."

Myrtelle Gunsul's lifelong personal motto

"To me, public office is public trust."

Myrtelle Gunsul's 1921 letter to the voters of Long Beach