

HW

'Miz' Infiltrates the FBI As Assistant to Director

By JUAN M. VASQUEZ

©, 1972, New York Times Service
 WASHINGTON — Barbara Herwig recalls attending a recruiting session by the Federal Bureau of Investigation when she was in law school. "After I was told they didn't accept women agents, well, I didn't expect to wind up here." But recently, the young attorney was informed by L. Patrick Gray III that she will continue to be his special assistant as he moves into his new job as acting director of the F.B.I.

The move will mean that, at the age of 27, the former Californian will become the first woman to hold such a substantive role in an agency that has been male-dominated since its birth half a century ago.

"IT MAY take a bit of getting used to," she said, "but I try to act like a professional, and I hope I will be accepted as one."
 She added in a tough tone followed by a quick laugh: "I'd better be."

A colleague of Gray's staff added, "If there are any die-hards in the F.B.I. who think this shouldn't happen, I can only say that there couldn't be a better person for the job."

The qualities her friends cite are determination, perseverance and a quick mind, combined with a logical approach to problems and what one friend called "open-mindedness."

"She is really one of the

like better still something "more pronounceable" — the path from public school in California to F.B.I. headquarters was as straight as an F.B.I. special agent.

SHE graduated from Stanford in 1967 and obtained her law degree three years later from Boalt Hall, the University of California Law School at Berkeley.

In November of 1970, after

equal employment and equal pay, but I'm not in sympathy with that part of the movement that says men are bad, we should have a completely different society."

She uses the title "Ms." to address other women unless they do not prefer it, and also uses it herself. "It drives the airlines wild," she said.

A LAW school friend recalled that Miss Herwig was active in a law school women's movement at Berkeley that effectively campaigned against law firms with "sexist" leaning that recruited on the campus.

After graduation, the friend added, Miss Herwig "got to argue in court long before anybody else in our class that I can recall."

Miss Herwig conceded that she had little knowledge of the internal workings of the F. B. I. She did not know J. Edgar Hoover, although she "ran into him in the elevator a few times."

As for her future work, she would like to help recruit women agents for the bureau if Gray decides that the bureau should accept them. Her work for Gray has consisted of undertaking "special projects of any kind," she said, but she is not sure of what her new responsibilities will entail.

Outside of the office, she described herself as a "book enthusiast" rather than a sports enthusiast. She lives alone in an apartment in the Southwest section of the city, not far from the Justice Department.

THE STATES-ITEM
 FOR AND ABOUT THE Family

TWENTY-FOUR NEW ORLEANS Monday, May 15, 1972

few, really bright, intellectual type conservatives I know," said a friend who knew her in college.

For Miss Herwig — who prefers the title Ms. but would

an interview with a Justice Department recruiter who later went to the Supreme Court — William H. Rehnquist — she went to work for the civil division of the department here in the appellate section.

The following March, as she remembers, "I got a call and was asked if I'd like to be considered for the job of special assistant to Mr. Gray, and I said, "Of course."

Of the acting F.B.I. director, she says, "He's a great man, you learn a lot from him." He calls her, "an excellent appellate lawyer."

Regarding women's liberation, she "supports that part of the movement that is for