

'Peace Pilgrim' Visits City On Last Half Of 10,000-Mile Trek

A 10,000 mile peace pilgrimage by 1956 is the goal of "Peace Pilgrim", an unidentified silver haired woman of about 50 who stopped in Mitchell Tuesday evening.

The woman, who declines to reveal anything about her background, has started the second half of her journey with 6,500 miles already covered since she started in 1953. During the time she has been walking on the last half the journey, in 1955, she has worn out her ninth pair of shoes.

The goal of the pilgrimage originally was to arouse people of the nation to accomplish three things: peace in Korea, establishment of a peace department to advise the President and world disarmament. Since the fulfillment of the first two aims, her goal has been world disarmament.

The first half the journey was made coast to coast entirely by foot. The second half, she has been walking 100 miles at a time, trying to stop at each state capitol. When traveling from one destination to the starting point of another, she accepts rides.

"Peace Pilgrim" started with no money or supplies other than a comb and toothbrush. She now carries a supply of "peace messages" containing her philosophy. These are reprinted voluntarily by friends and forwarded to her at each capitol.

Her peace plea states "If you would find the way to peace you must overcome evil with good, and falsehood with truth, and hatred with love. We plead with you to free us from the crushing burden of armaments—to free us from hatred and fear—so that we may feed our hungry ones, mend our broken cities, and experience a richness of life which can only come in a world that is unarmed and fed."

She has vowed to continue walking, speaking to people, fasting until offered food and sleeping in the open until offered lodging until "mankind has learned the way to peace."



"Peace Pilgrim", an unidentified woman, stopped in Mitchell Tuesday night during the last half trek in her 10,000 mile pilgrimage afoot. She has been fasting, walking and spreading her philosophy of peace since 1953. She wears the words "Peace Pilgrim" sewed on her blouse to arouse curiosity and give her an opportunity to talk about her pilgrimage. She is shown above reading newspaper clippings which tell of her work.

(Daily Republic Photo)