

Peace Pilgrim Visits City

By MADELINE DUVAL

Times Herald Religion Writer
At least one penniless woman in this country finds poverty no problem. She calls herself the Peace Pilgrim.

More than 11 years ago she took as one of her vows: "I shall not accept more than I need while others have less than they need."

The erect silver-haired woman with weathered bronzed complexion, stands for exactly what her name says. She carries the word of Peace and is on a Pilgrimage.

She is spending three days on the Peninsula. Yesterday she spoke at Grace Methodist Church and to prayer groups. Tonight at 7:30 she will speak in First Presbyterian Church, Hampton, and tomorrow at 10:30 a.m., in First Methodist Church, Newport News.

Dressed in navy blue slacks and shirt, and a short light blue tunic with pockets all around the bottom in which she carries her only worldly possessions. It says "Peace Pilgrim" in white letters on the front of the tunic and "Walking 25,000 miles for World Peace" on the back.

SHE HAS ALMOST finished walking those miles. Her vow is: "I shall remain a wanderer until mankind has learned the way of peace, walking until I am given shelter and fasting until I am given food." She walks without a penny in her pockets, and she is not affiliated with any organization. She walks as a prayer and as a chance to inspire others to pray and work with her for peace.

She speaks to individuals along the way, to groups in cities, and through the medium of the news services. She points out that this is a crisis period in human history, and that we who live in the world today must choose between a nuclear war of annihilation and a golden age of peace.

Peace Pilgrim's magic formula for resolving conflicts is: Have as your objective the resolving of the conflict—not the gaining of advantage, and the magic formula for avoiding conflicts is: Be concerned that you do not offend—not that you are not offended.

Her possessions consist of a comb, folding toothbrush, ball-point pen, a map, leaflets telling of her mission, and unanswered mail. The little money that she uses is for postage and paper to answer her mail and to have the leaflets printed.

SHE'S WEARING her 12th tunic and her 29th pair of thick



Mayor Donald Hyatt welcomes Peace Pilgrim to City.

soled canvas shoes. She says she gets approximately 1,500 miles per pair of shoes.

"When somebody sees my clothes are worn and shoes get holes, new ones are offered to me. Food and lodging come the same way," she said.

She now is on her third walking tour of the United States and this time she is visiting every city of over 25,000 population.

She started walking for world peace in 1953 in Los Angeles, Calif., and has visited 48 of the 50 states, excluding the two new ones. This is her second time in Virginia, but her first time in the Peninsula area.

Of her background she says only this: "In early life, I found money making to be easy but meaningless. When I began to live—to give instead of to get—my life became meaningful, and I knew my life's work would be for peace. There followed 15 years of serving and seeking before I found inner peace and began my peace pilgrimage. I simply do not worry about anything that does not fit into my plan, or mission," she said.

"AS FOR MY AGE, what has that to do with my mission. I

am completely healthy and average approximately 25 miles a day, something I couldn't do when I was 20. When you have faith anything can be accomplished. While making up my mind to become a peace pilgrim, I fasted for 45 days and now I know what my body can take," she added.

Peace Pilgrim expects to walk into Washington this October, completing her 25,000 miles, and she hopes to talk to some administration officials about the peace department, perhaps even the President, she said.

"Some good signs of approaching world peace, says Peace Pilgrim, were the signing of the nuclear test ban treaty, the Peace Corps, student exchange programs, and university research into ways of resolving conflicts peaceably. I know that during my life I will see world peace," she concluded.

She gives her address as: Peace Pilgrim, Cologne, N. J.

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