

Walking 'Peace Pilgrim' Reaches Peoria

A slight gray-haired woman (five-foot four and 115 pounds) came to Peoria this morning with a message of peace and willing to tell it to anyone who will listen.

Identified only as "Peace Pilgrim" she says she has walked more than 18,650 miles since 1953 when she started out from Los Angeles. She carries and solicits no funds but accepts hospitality from persons who offer her accommodations for the night. She has been in 48 states, Mexico, and Canada on her peace hikes.

HER FAVORITE food is fruit, and she is a vegetarian. Last night she spoke at the First Methodist Church in Bushnell and

was brought to Peoria by automobile.

"I shall remain a wanderer until mankind has learned the way of peace, walking until I am given shelter and fasting until given food," she said.

At 8 tonight she is scheduled to address a public gathering sponsored by the Society of Friends at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Chapman, 1000 W. Moss Ave.

"Peace Pilgrim" declined to reveal her real name or her age, neither of which means a thing concerning her mission of peace, she said.

SHE SAID a person "becomes ageless" after they find inner

peace. She averages about 25 miles a day and considers her walk tomorrow to Pekin just a "short walk." From there she will walk to Bloomington.

"Peace Pilgrim" is attired in a blue-gray shirt and slacks and wears thick-sole tennis shoes. On the front of her shirt is lettered: "Peace Pilgrim" and on the back: "Walking 25,000 Miles for World Peace."

Her last visit to Peoria was in September, 1955. She is a native of New Jersey and her mailing address is: "Peace Pilgrim" Cologne, N.J."

Before reaching Illinois, she walked through Wisconsin and after leaving this state she plans to walk through Missouri.



"PEACE PILGRIM"

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