

"I haven't had any aches, pains, colds or even a flu in 39 years. My good health began when I learned how to live to give."

People have been friendly, she said.

"Nobody's said an unkind word. Sometimes they yell from cars. But it's encouragement like 'good luck' or 'keep up the good work.'"

"Plenty don't stop. And I'm sure they think I'm completely off the beam. People ask me, 'Doesn't anyone ever throw anything at you?'"

"Throw anything at me? Good heavens, no. Only one person ever threw anything at me. It was a handful of crumpled up money." She gave the money to the church where she was speaking that night.

Her first pilgrimage was 5,000 miles from Los Angeles to New York City. It took her 200 walking days, averaging 25 miles a day.

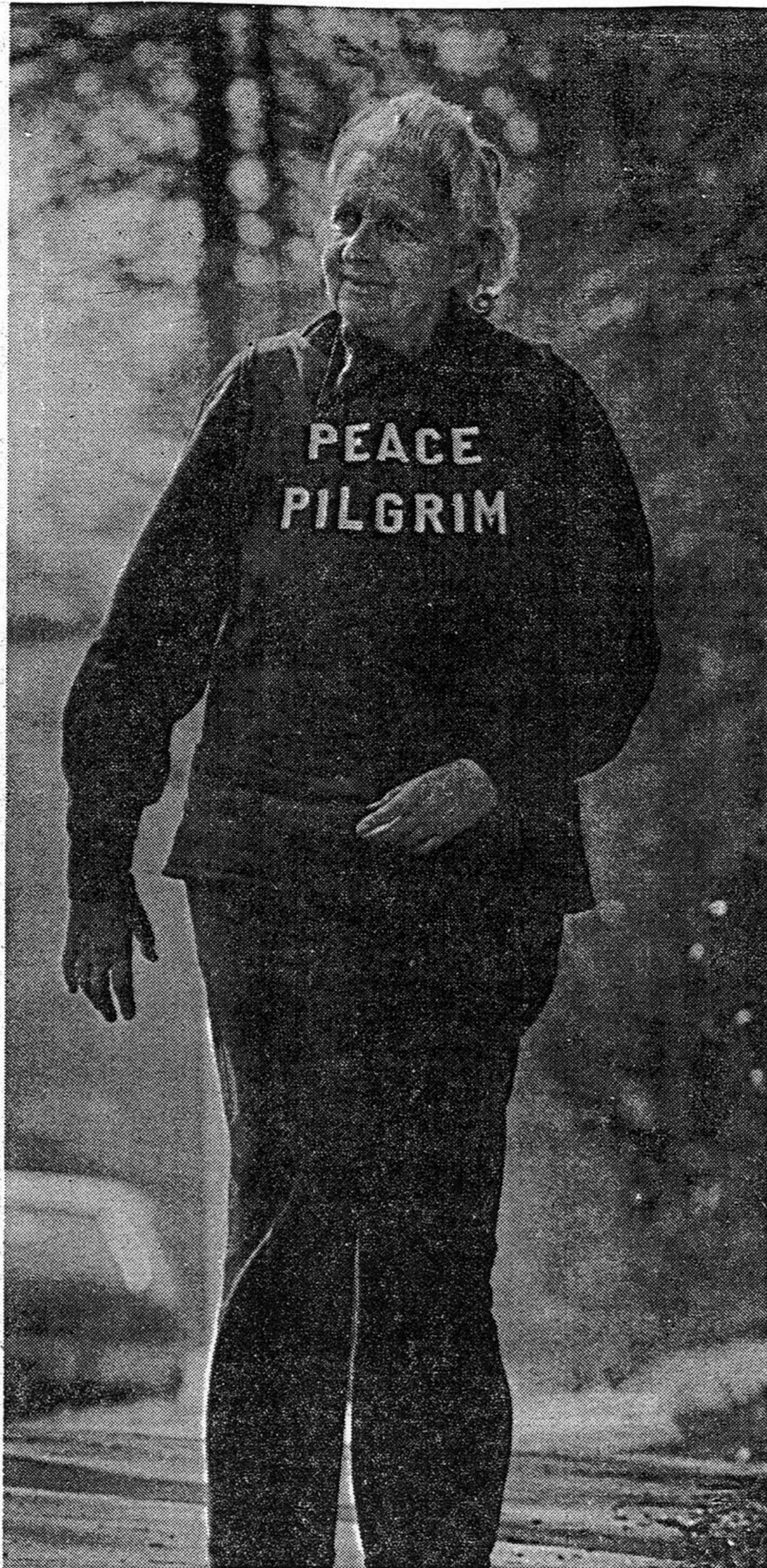
What is her goal?

"To do as much to establish peace on earth as one human being can do." And what is her concept of peace? "Peace is much more than the temporary absence of war. It is the absence of the causes of war." The cause of war, she believes, is "immaturity."

"If we, as a race, were mature people, peace would be assured. But we have only scratched the surface of our real potential."

Her answer lies in each individual's achievement of a state of inner peace, which she believes is in harmony with God's will.

"It requires leaving the self-centered life and living the God-centered life," she said. "This keeps life in perspective and keeps each of us working not for ourselves alone, but for the good of us all."



Times photo by Jim Strickland

Peace Pilgrim walks to inspire others for world peace