

The Herald Journal

LOGAN, UTAH, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1959

Her Concern: That Man Finds Way To Peace

By Edith Morgan

Walking with the light, easy step of youth and exuberance she came down the highway toward us, a slight, greyhaired woman dressed in dark blue slacks and shirt—Peace Pilgrim.

She is walking 25,000 miles for world peace. When she tells you "I have taken a vow that 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," you realize that her mission was not undertaken lightly and that she will complete it, if given time.

In the short sieveless jumper of covert cloth, made with pockets all around the bottom, she carries her worldly possessions. She has no money 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 and to groups. One night this week she spoke at the 15th ward Mutual and she stayed at the home of Mrs. Josephine Christensen.

Monday evening when the rain began to fall she took shelter for a moment on the porch of a home between Smithfield and Richmond to get her letters securely covered. Mrs. Dexter Kent, lady of the house, invited her in and gave her a meal and night's lodging.

Then she walked to Brigham — a good hike in anyone's language — the next day to Roy where she will speak and then on to Ogden. Saturday she spoke in Bountiful and today she will be in Salt Lake City.

Asked if she by any chance had a folding umbrella in the pockets of her jumper, she replied, "I won't melt. My skin is waterproof. When you are so concerned about what you are doing, you don't worry about little discomforts." And of her age, "After you have found inner peace, you are ageless." Looking
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at the untroubled blue eyes, you believe her.

The light rain began again and we invited her to sit in the car while we talked. She agreed, cautioning us with a smile that she could not accept a ride.

What does she think about Khrushchev's visit? "I want him to come here and get to know us, and I pray that we will treat him with such kindness and friendship that he will change toward us. I think an exchange of people on all levels will be very helpful for world peace. Once we get to know one another, we will see how much more we are alike than different."

Does she have any concrete plans that will assist in obtaining world peace? "The establishment of a world language to be taught as a second language in all

schools of the world. A common language would do much to break down distrust and the barriers that exist between different cultures. And second, the establishment of a peace department in the cabinet of the United States, a secretary of peace whose job would be to explore every possible means for peaceful settle-

ment of differences between countries.

"If we could persuade all nations to give up the right to make war, just as the individual states of the United States have done by becoming part of the union, we would solve the problem. I think this is the job for the UN. If the UN could maintain a peaceful situation in the world, it would not have to do anything else. The other problems could be taken care of on a local level.

"I expect to see world disarmament and world peace in my lifetime. I think fear of annihilation is pushing us toward it.

"There is a magic formula for

resolving conflicts. It is this: Have as your object the resolving of the conflict, not the gaining of advantage. There is a magic formula for avoiding conflicts. It is this: Be concerned that you do not offend, not that you are not offended."

As she was leaving the impulse was too strong to resist, "Do you have any place you call home?" "No, I am a wanderer, but I have an address where you can write to me: Peace Pilgrim, Cologne, New Jersey. The postmistress there offered to be a

clearing house for my mail. She knows some of the places I will stop and forwards my mail to general delivery in various towns."
"Do you ever tell anyone your name?"
"My name is Peace Pilgrim."



SWINGING ALONG on her avowed 25,000 mile "march for peace" is Peace Pilgrim, photographed above as she walked between Smithfield and Logan this week. At right she is being interviewed by Edith Morgan, feature writer for Herald Journal.



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