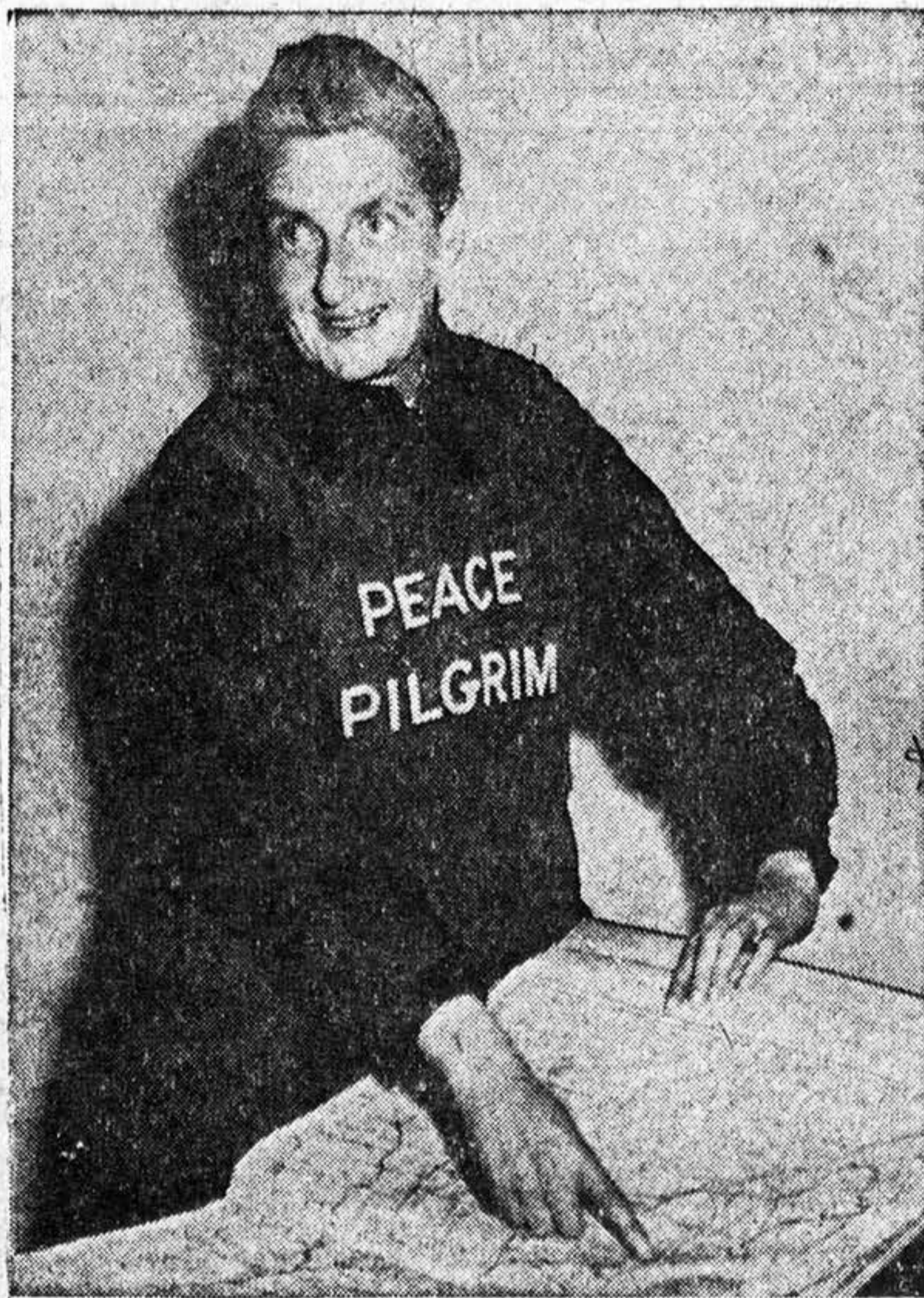


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Morning News Photo

PEACE PILGRIM, an anonymous woman who stopped here last night on a 5,000-mile one-woman peace pilgrimage, shows on a map her claims she started from Los Angeles Jan. 1 "without a cent," and has been walking across the country since that time.

Peace Pilgrim Stops in City On 5,000 Mile Coastal Hike

Peace Pilgrim—that is the only name to which she will answer—stopped off in Wilmington last night, only 100 miles away from her goal of a 5,000-mile coast-to-coast walk in the interests of world peace.

Denying association with any group or sponsorship of any individual or organization, she reports she left Los Angeles Jan. 1 "without a cent" and has been walking since that time. She disdains hitch-hiking a ride.

Stopping to talk with people along the highways and in cities, she also has carried her message of world peace through newspapers, and radio and television stations. She reports that all three major wire services have been "very kind to me—even printing my picture with its accompanying message."

Message on Windbreaker

The message of which she speaks is the white lettering sewn front and back on the waterproof windbreaker she wears. It reads: "Peace Pilgrim. Walking Coast to Coast for Peace."

That's about it, too. The only "luggage" she had with her last night when she stopped in at the Morning News city room was a brown paper bag, strapped with a rubber band and bearing "unanswered mail from people who have been interested in furthering world peace and have written to me."

She has no home and her only forwarding address is Cologne, N. J. But she's from the East, all right, because she has the typical accent of people who live between Brooklyn and Baltimore.

She carries only the clothes on her back, plus her peace petitions and copies of her message on the way to peace. Her clothing consists of dark blue slacks, shirt and tunic, with canvas, rubber-soled shoes. She wears no hat and her hair is drawn up in an upsweep. Right now, she's on her sixth pair of shoes since Jan. 1.

Voices Confident Cheer

It is difficult to tell her age, for there is gray flecked in her blonde hair. Her lips are chapped and her hands are lined from being exposed to the weather. But her large, bright blue eyes and her voice are full of confident cheer.

Peace Pilgrim has an abiding fondness for newspapers, because they carry her message and, combined with leaves, they make a bed and blankets at night. She is five feet, four inches tall, weighs 115 pounds and claims she hasn't lost a pound since she started her pilgrimage.

How does she find food? "I walk on an average of 25 miles a day," she says, "sometimes traveling as high as 40 miles. I simply walk until I'm given shelter, and fast until I'm given food." Her longest period without food has been 36 hours.

What about this food and shelter business? Has she ever been refused?

Says She Never Asks

"How could I?" she reasons, "I've never asked for anything."

Very secretive and submerging everything personal in favor of her mission, she had planned to spend the night in Wilmington last night

at the home of a minister whom she wouldn't identify. Unable to contact him, she decided she'd sleep the night at the Bus Center, Second and French Streets.

Her message: "The world situation is grave. Humanity, with fearful, faltering steps, walks a knife-edge between abysmal chaos and a new renaissance, while strong forces push toward chaos. * * * Overcome evil with good, falsehood with truth, and hatred with love. Please don't say lightly that these are just religious concepts, and not practical. These are laws governing human conduct which apply as rigidly as the laws of gravity. When we disregard these laws in any walk of life, chaos results. Through obedience to these laws, this frightened, war-weary world of ours could enter into a period of peace and richness of life beyond our fondest dreams."

She asks that the President establish a Secretary of Peace, "who accepts these principles, and that all conflict situations at home or abroad be referred to this Peace Department." And she asks the United Nations for disarmament.

Her shelter, as she insists upon referring to it, has ranged from a \$15-a-night suite in Arizona one night, to the concrete floor of an all-night gasoline station in Texas the next night.

But it's all the same to Peace Pilgrim. As she says: "We never will find peace unless we forget about ourselves and work for the whole family of humanity, not adhering to one set of principles on Sunday, and another set the rest of the week."