

Modern-day pilgrim walks 11,350 miles for world peace

By ROGER GILMORE
Sun Staff Writer

A silver-haired, keen-eyed, smooth-striding modern-day pilgrim passed through Gainesville yesterday on part of her 1,000-mile pilgrimage through Florida. Her pilgrimages have taken her through every state in the United States, all the Canadian provinces and into Mexico.

The "peace pilgrim," in telling of her walking pilgrimage that began four and a half years ago in Los Angeles, Calif., said that she has now counted 11,350 miles.

She declines to reveal her name, where she was born, her age or other personal facts (except she was born in the United States). She says none of these have a bearing on her pilgrimage.

Fasting, Walking

Her vow, taken at the start of her pilgrimage: "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 stressed the point that she never asks for food or lodging and takes them only when offered. She said she had never gone

without more than four meals in a row and generally three-quarters of the time she has a bed to sleep in.

"Peace" is not affiliated with any church or organization although she mentioned that "all churches are stepping stones to God." She also said she will worship with any group that is sincere.

Walk Until Peace Comes

Her vow is to walk until world peace is observed. As she explained it, "Not merely the absence of war in the world but inner peace, too."

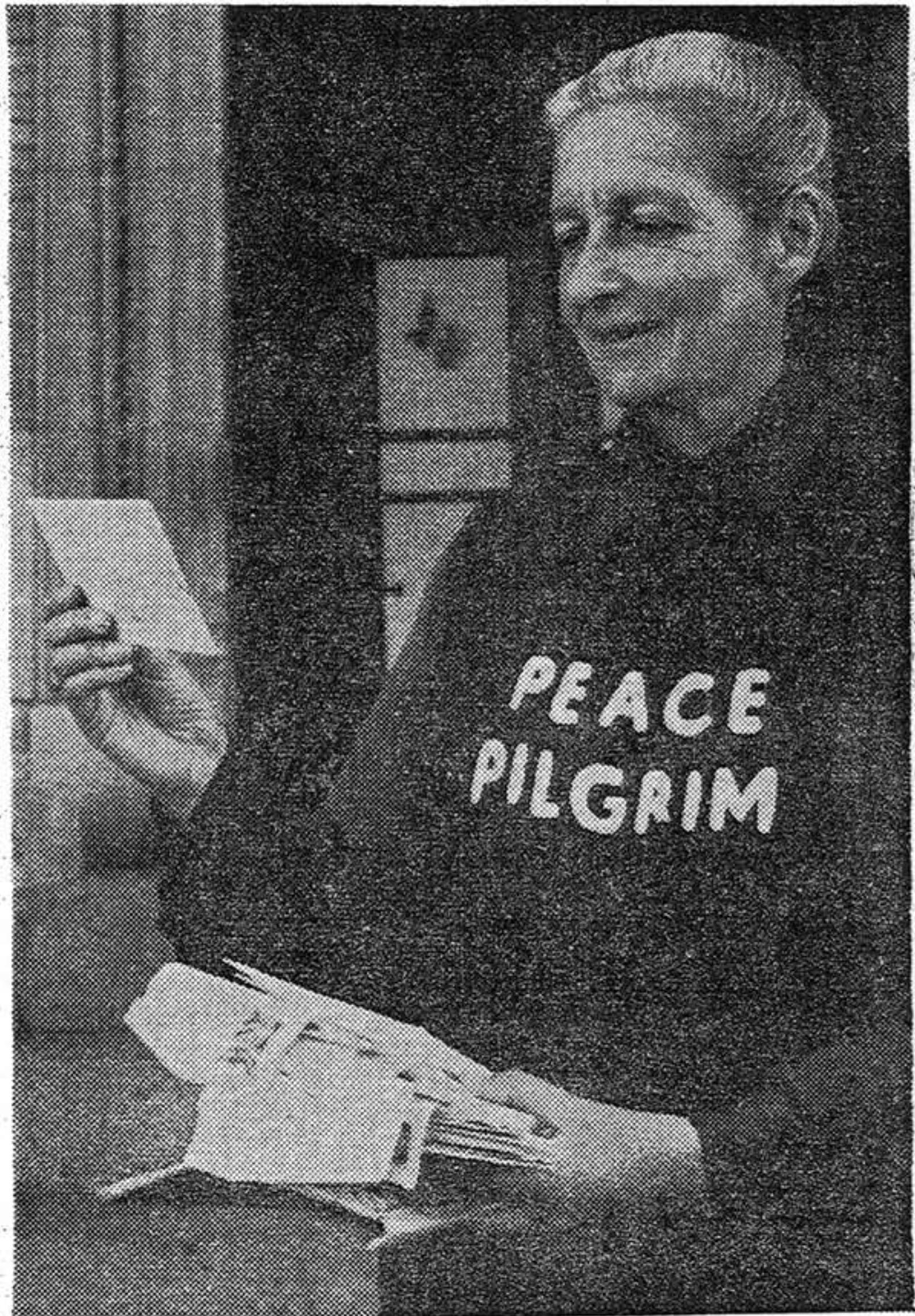
"Peace," with eyes shining and a smile of happiness on her face,

speaks in a sincere tone about the general problems of the world and how she hopes little people, like herself, will join her in the cause of peace.

She talks with people about a variety of subjects from religion to disarmament. She gives frank, concise and rational statements to questions.

She arrived here after leaving High Springs on her Florida pilgrimage which started in Pensacola and continued through Panama City, Tallahassee and other cities along the route to Gainesville.

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PAUSES IN WALKATHON — A woman calling herself the "Peace Pilgrim" pauses on the steps of the Gainesville post office yesterday afternoon to check on her 39 pieces of mail she received here. She passed through here on her 1,000 mile walking pilgrimage throughout Florida. (Sun photo).