Peace Is Pilgrim's 10,000-Mile Goal

BY STEPHEN MORRIS

A walking legend came striding into The News city room last night.

She is Peace Pilgrim. It's not her real name. It was assumed by the gray-haired, intense, completely sincere woman who is trying to change the world.

All she has are the clothes on her back and a bright light in her steel blue eyes. She wants the world to disarm so that peace can come.

SHE WEARS a navy blue costume, with slacks and sneakers. And she has walked 8,400 miles.

She has 600 more to go. She feels if she walks long enough and talks to enough of the world's little people, that men's hearts will change from war and bloodshed and violence.

She has vowed to "remain a wanderer until mankind has learned the way of peace, walking until I am given shelter and fasting until I am given food."

THIS REMARKABLE woman forsok the world as we know it 15 years ago. She did so with the words, "I shall not accept more than I need while others in the world have less than they need."

She has been on her "Peace Pilgrimage" for the last three years. She has walked across the country twice. She has buttonholed thousands of people and doubtless has affected many of them with her sincerity. She speaks often in churches, though she is not affiliated with any church organization or denomination. She has been written up in national magazines. But she stress that "as a person, I am unimportant. But my mission is vitally important."

Three years ago her three goals were: Peace in Korea, the appointment of a "Secretary of Peace" (Harold E. Stassen) and world disarmament. Two of them has become a reality.

"If enough of us ask together, the big things can be granted, even world disarmament," she says. "They are asking for that now, and it doesn't seem like asking for the moon anymore."

WHILE HERE, she's staying with Miss Bertha Faust, at 709 N. 8th St. She plans to walk to New York soon and then to Canada. If border restrictions keep her out, on account of her lack of money, she plans to walk along the Canadian border. Talking to people, all along the route.

It's easy to be cynical about it until you talk to her. Then you remember that phrase, you read somewhere about faith... the kind that moves mountains.