

PEACE PILGRIM'S Action Suggestions, Tucson, Arizona, 2/14/1960

I am often asked two questions. One is as to the results of my pilgrimage. The other is as to specific actions that people might take to work for peace.

As to results: Of course, I leave the results of my pilgrimage in the hands of God, knowing that all right work and right effort has effect and bears fruit. After this length of time I have seen some results which I can measure best in the wonderful letters I get from people, varying in effect. For example: (some things people are moved to do)

1. Since talking with you I realize that I should be doing something for peace. I am a farm house wife. Now I am writing one letter every day to someone in the government or in the UN who is doing something on the good side commending them and giving them moral support. --She had taken my suggestion about commending the good and strengthening it.

Now that there is deep motivation toward returning to God's law, it is natural that some good things ~~which~~ should begin to become manifest. These we should watch for, and when they appear, commend them.

2: Another letter dealt with something different. World peace seemed too big for me to get my teeth into, and so, since talking with you I have joined the Human Relations Commission in my town and I am working on human relations locally.

3. --I have resolved a misunderstanding between my sister-in-law and myself.

4. Another letter dealt with inner peace. She had cut out smoking. This is fine. Peace begins within you and spreads out. You can work for peace right where you are. After you have brought harmony into any unharmonious situation, you have done something for peace.

I have seen the formation of community peace committees in towns I have passed through. Every once in a while there is an interesting little incident. I was walking and a ~~girl~~ car stopped and a well dressed couple began talking with me. Suddenly the man burst into tears. "Because I have done nothing, you have to do so much!" My job is to rouse people. We recognize something is required of us but we tend to remain inactive, to do nothing. When we have worked for peace long and lovingly and have seen no results, this is just because we cannot see far enough ahead into the future. Those who worked in difficult times paved the way and contributed more perhaps than those of us who see peace becoming possible.

Now, as to specific things people might do. I do not believe that I can tell a person specifically what he should be doing, because I believe the action he takes must come from within him. However, I can make suggestions.

I was talking to a little prayer group one and after I talked with them about peace within ourselves, someone said: What is the matter with us? We started with such high hopes and now we are stagnating. I responded: As far as I can see there is no outgoing action from your group. Try becoming a peace prayer group for a month.