

Too Much Trouble

Prison To Free Hunger Striker

ALDERSON (AP) — The "peacemaker" of the Federal Reformatory for Women has convinced the authorities she is too much trouble to be kept around. Her fellow believers who have been camped outside the walls are expected to greet her when she makes her triumphant exit sometime Friday. It will bring to an end almost a week of picketing by them in protest against her imprisonment.

Miss Eroseeanna Robinson was sentenced to the reformatory

from Chicago three months ago. She, like other "peacemakers," objects to paying income tax because some of the money goes for military spending.

Her objection went so far as to keep her from producing records on her financial affairs in Chicago, where she was a welfare worker. Judge Edwin A. Robson of U. S. District Court found her guilty of contempt and sent her up for a year and a day.

Miss Robinson, a determined woman of 35, reacted by refusing

to cooperate in any way with the authorities. It was passive resistance carried to the extreme.

At the reformatory she refused all along to eat her meals. The administration kept her alive by having her fed through a tube.

Other "peacemakers" from various states first turned up about three weeks ago. They picketed for a few hours, then disappeared. The reformatory took no notice of them.

About eight — half men, half women, half white, half Negro — came back to stay last Saturday. They set up tents near the walls, paraded in front of the main gate with signs carrying such slogans as "No Tax For War" and "Peace Is The Only Defense" and mingled with the people of this small town during off-duty hours.

Thursday, Judge Robson ordered Miss Robinson released, giving as his reason that she had be-

come a burden to the medical facilities of the reformatory. He added that he felt she had already been punished sufficiently.

The reunion with the other peacemakers will not come until Friday because the warden, Miss Nina Knisella, has not received the judge's order in writing. She expects to do so in the morning, at which time she will free her bothersome prisoner.

Miss Kinsella said there was no connection between the presence of the pickets outside the walls and the release order. She said the judge had asked when he imposed sentence for a report within 90 days, "for consideration of modification of sentence," and this had been sent out several weeks ago.

There was to be no official notification of the peacemakers. All along, they have stayed off the reformatory grounds, and the reformatory has had nothing to do with them.

AFTER SEEING ROSE

Victory Celebrated By 'Peacemakers'

ALDERSON — Somewhere in southeastern West Virginia Friday night 10 people, half of them ex-convicts and almost all of them very, very hungry, celebrated what they saw as a big victory over the government of the United States.

The occasion was the release a few hours before of Eroseeanna Robinson from the Federal Reformatory for Women. The sentence she had received because of her refusal to pay income taxes unexpectedly had been cut short.

Through all the 93 days she did serve, Miss Robinson, a tall, thin social worker in her mid-

dle thirties, would not take a single meal. She was kept alive by being fed liquids through her nose.

This became just too much for Federal Judge Edwin A. Robson, who sent her up from Chicago for a year and a day last Feb. 18, and by his order of Thursday, out she went to freedom.

OUTSIDE waiting for her were seven men and two women who think as she does about taxes, opposing them because they are used for military purposes. They belong to a group called the "Peacemakers," and, according to their own statements, more than half have served contempt sentences. The party had been

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camped out by the reformatory walls since last Saturday, carrying signs of sympathy for Miss Robinson and against the practices of the federal government they don't like. All but two of them went without food, taking nothing but water. Presumably, they were going to continue like this until they dropped, since they had no inkling of what Judge Robson had decided to do.

The reformatory administration planned to put its difficult ex-prisoner on the 4:42 p. m. train to Chicago, getting her out of the gate just a few minutes before so there would be no time for a demonstration.

A government car drove her hurriedly through the gates while the other Peacemakers called and waved, and flourished a "Bravo, Rose" sign.

REALIZING what was happening, they jumped into their cars and gave chase down to the Alder-

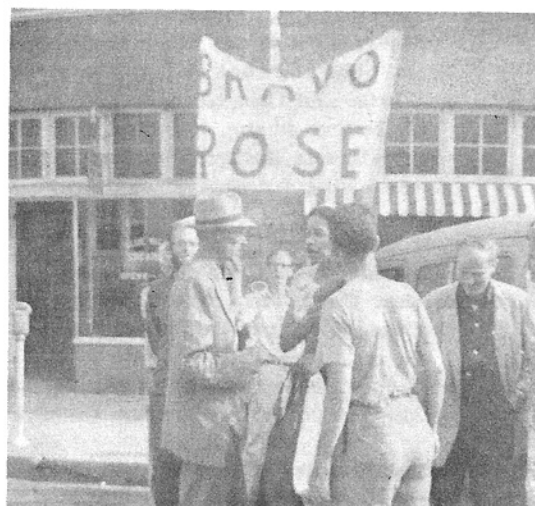
son railroad station, a mile away. They were there when she got out and greeted her with hugs and kisses and much jumping up and down.

It was a big moment for the cause.

Then, while the accompanying correctional officer and the government driver stood by helplessly, Miss Robinson ignored the train and drove off with her friends. Where they were going wasn't known.

Their spokesman, Ernest Bromley of Cincinnati, an ex-Methodist minister said they had made no plans, but would just get away by themselves for a time, then decide what to do.

Asked if he thought the picketing had had anything to do with the early release of the Peacemakers' heroine, he first said he didn't know, then thought a little and added, "It certainly didn't hurt any."



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The Peacemaker

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