

won by Maureen Joseph McGee, Champion House. She won the Head-use Trophy. She shows some of them. Photo T. McNulty.

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**A**FTER a lifetime in textiles, culminating in a manager's post at Valley Mills, Nelson, Mr John R. West retires today.

Mr West, of Lancaster Gate, Nelson, was born in Silsden, and worked for several years at mills in Silsden and Skipton. He came to Valley Mills 16 years ago after working in India.

He has seen many changes in the textile industry, and has seen the industry go through the slump and the recent re-organisation.

"I have seen the mill completely re-organised during my time here. About 2,000 non-automatic Lancashire looms have been thrown out and the mill has been re-equipped with over 800 foreign-built fully automatic looms," he said.

He has seen many changes in the textile industry, and has seen the industry go through the slump and the recent re-organisation.

"Opportunities for young people," he says, "especially bright young people, are better now than they have ever been. This mill itself is an important unit of Courtauld's Ltd, and it

's going to become more important."

Mr West has been presented with four gifts including a table lighter from the coloured night shift workers. "I think this was a very nice gesture on their behalf," he said.

He has also received gifts from his managerial colleagues, from the mill operatives and from other branches of Courtauld's Ltd.

# They walked the Pennine Way



Our picture shows the party back at camp school after completing 250 miles of the Pennine Way. Photo: T. McNulty.

**H**APPY, but tired, 13 Nelson Grammar School boys completed a 250 mile trek of the Pennine Way last week.

The boys, all fourth years, ended their journey at Edale, Derbyshire, and enjoyed a

celebration meal at Garsfield before returning to Whitehough Camp School, Barley.

The trek started three weeks ago at Kirk Yetholm, north of the Cheviot Hills, and the boys led by teachers, Mr. Peter Thornton and Mr. D. Trewartha camped out and faced all weathers. The second half of

the journey was led by two more teachers, Mr. L. Birchall and Mr. Wankadia.

Mr. Kenneth Oldham, headmaster at Whitehough said the boys had not done too badly for weather but whatever the conditions, he said, the Pennine Way was still an ordeal. The trip has become 'an

annual event for Nelson Grammar School, as parties over the past few years have completed the walk. Last year, two parties went on the trek both starting from opposite directions.

Added Mr. Oldham: "I am delighted at the boys' progress. This is quite a feat and they have done very well."

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