

THOSE WHO SERVE

Number 3 in the series of Profiles by Brigadier C. W. Morton, M.C.

JOSEPH BENEDICT CARRICK

JOSEPH CARRICK is a comparatively young Head Greenkeeper as service goes these days. He is only 53 years of age but has packed a lifetime of experience into his total of 36 years' have been as Head Greenkeeper. He greenkeeping, the last 25 of which first became a greenkeeper in 1933 at Portmarnock Golf Club, Co. Dublin. He went on from there in 1944 as



Head Greenkeeper to Cill Daca Golf Club, Kildare. There he remained until 1953, when he moved to Newlands Golf Club, Dublin.

In 1955, he left Eire and came to England as Head Greenkeeper to the Northamptonshire County Golf Club, where he is still serving. He joined the B.G.G.A. in 1946 when he was getting a wage of only 50/- per week. Now he receives a worth-while wage, plus a free cottage and also a free motor car. He also receives a percentage of the green fees. He tells me that his present club, Northamptonshire County Golf Club, is a very go-ahead club. It has every possible machine and mechanical device to cope with the work. It also

has a grinding machine to keep its machinery in a high state of efficiency.

He thinks the job of greenkeeping is a wonderful vocation. He was instrumental in forming the Irish Section of the B.G.G.A. and held every office of that Section at one time or another. He later became a member of the Executive Committee of the B.G.G.A. He served on the Greenkeeping Advisory Council to the former Board of Greenkeeping Research under the Chairmanship of Mr F. G. Hawtree. He is at present a member of the East Midland Section of the B.G.G.A. A fine record of service over only 36 years and not ended yet by a long chalk.

SAMUEL THOMAS McNEICE

SAMUEL McNEICE, now aged 63, has 43 year's of greenkeeping service to his credit. He is a son of the late G. McNeice who was a founder-member of the B.G.G.A. and Chairman at the time of his death. It was under his father's expert guidance that he served as an apprentice greenkeeper. He first became a greenkeeper at Banstead Down Golf Club. The following year he went as an apprentice to the R.A.C. at Epsom where he drove the first converted T Model Ford to be used on fairways. In 1928 he moved to Hearsall Golf Club, Coventry, where he was first assistant in charge of the greens only. In this year he became a member of the B.G.G.A. He moved to Leamington Spa in 1930 to take over the job of Head Greenkeeper and to Stinchcombe Hill Golf Club in 1934. During the war years he became an agricultural engineer. After the war, he went to Robin Hood Golf Club and in 1951 to the Leicestershire Golf Club where he is still serving.

He was Chairman of the B.G.G.A. in 1960/61 and has been a keen golfer all his life. His lowest handicap was 4 but he is now 10. He won the B.G.G.A. Annual Tournament at Sudbury in 1951 playing in the 54-hole Senior Medal and has won many Section tournaments. He has also played for the Scottish Greenkeepers' Association against England. He tells me that his weekly pay when he joined as a boy was 14/-, rising to £2 7s. 6d. when he was 21 years of age. When he became

of the East Midland Section for many years.

He says that he has enjoyed his life as a greenkeeper and is very happy with his present club. He has put in a great lot of experience in his 43 years of greenkeeping and still has seven more years to go for his half-century. He will then be 70. All credit to him.



Head Greenkeeper in 1930 he still got only £3 10s. 0d. weekly. How absurd this looks now when he is in receipt of a really good wage plus a free three-bedroomed house. At long last Head Greenkeepers seem to be paid an adequate wage and given a free cottage/house.

Few members can have such a fine record of service to the B.G.G.A. Throughout the years he has taken an active part in Association affairs—the formation of the S.W. Section of which he is a past Secretary, the re-forming of the Midland Section after the war, Chairmanship of the Nottingham Section (which is of course now the East Midland Section) and Secretary

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