

# LOOK AT LIFE IN ...

## Butcher Martin plays the 'generation game'

MARTIN GARNER is the fourth generation of his family to run the village butchery business, which was founded about 80 years ago.

It was started by his great-grandfather, Henry Garner, who handed it down to his son, who went by the memorable name of Mordecai Garner.

Mordecai was followed by his nephew, David Garner, who passed the ownership on to his son, the present proprietor.

Martin Garner, who is 58, now usually mans the shop at Wargate Way. He says there is little trade in the shop itself but he keeps busy making sausages and haslets and cooking hams.

By far the greatest part of the trade comes from the two travelling vans which almost daily tour an area of eight or nine miles radius from Gosber-

ton.

The drivers are Mr Garner's cousin, Alec Garner, who has worked in the business for 34 years, and Mr Ray Stanley.

When Henry Garner started the business it was carried out from the Manor House. It was moved to Wargate Way about 50 years ago.

Until 10 years ago Mr Garner and his employees did their own slaughtering. Now they buy privately and have the slaughtering carried out at an abattoir.

Mr Garner, who lives with his wife, Alice, next door to the shop, has been president of the Spalding and District Butchers' Association three times.



Martin Garner, the Gosberton butcher, at work in his Wargate Way shop

He used to be a member of the Spalding Golf Club and Mrs Garner is a keen golfer and bridge player. They are both keen caravanners, too.