

ALL DISQUIET ON WASHING FRONT

Two or three semi long shots at different angles of washing on lines

Full C/U shooting down on washtub, with woman's hands busy

Semi long shot clothes line full up

MIX TO

Same shot without clothes

Mix TO

Full C/U Long bar of soap upended on table and packet of soap flakes alongside

Woman's hand appears, about to pick up soap. Before she gets there the soap and flakes are jumped out of picture.

quick cut semi montage sequence of close shots of grocers saying to same woman: "sorry, not a bit of soap in the place.

Soap? Haven't seen any for a fortnight.

Soap flakes? Rare as bananas.

Sorry, madam. Not a bit

No. I sold out last week.

I don't know when I shall get any more.

These shots are not covered in natural sound. The sound is taken on wild track and used over the sequence.

Walt Low
X Full C/U, shooting down on to a table. A woman's hand is dusting it. As he had goes to edge of picture a ration book is jumped in.

Paper tearing wipe to

+ L/S Min. of Food.

L L/S Big switchboard

Medium close shot in public call-box. The woman who has tried to buy soap is seen in backshot speaking into phone. Voice to be dubbed

Woman: (dubbed) Ministry of Food? I've spent all the morning trying to buy some soap. I've got a pile of washing to do at home and the laundry hasn't called for five weeks+

In this same shot the woman starts back as a mud pie resoundly hits the outside of the window, about six inches from her face.

Semi Long shot outside callbox shows half a dozen little urchins running away, having just thrown the mud pie.

L Close shot of kids going down a chute in a park.

L Two or three other shots in park - youngsters on swings, see-saws, etc.

Last two shots of this little sequence are of ~~very grubby~~ kiddies playing on ~~bomb~~ site.

Years ago very few women ever thought they'd look back with regret to the wonderful washing days before the war.

The trouble is today that in many parts of the country you just can't cope with the washing. The laundries can't take it, and as for soap, you might as well ask for Devonshire Cream

The soap allocation comes under the Min. of Food. They're investigating the problem. They may ration it, as the present system is full of loopholes.

One reason why soap is scarce in London, and other big towns is that the evacuees are back - all engaged in the favourite pastime of getting as dirty as possible all day long.

In that aim they're helped a good deal by the wonderful new play places afforded by bombed sites, where a kiddie can get twice as filthy in half the time it takes anywhere else.

Long shot just outside a laundry receiving depot. A woman goes in, carrying a large bundle of laundry - almost as large as she can hold.

Shot from behind counter shows woman dumping bundle. In this shot the laundry receptionist, in back shot, says, (dubbed)

I can't promise it under six weeks.

Reverse angle.

Woman (back shot, dubbed): Six weeks! I can't wait that long.

Camera pans to Poster on wall appealing for labour in laundries.

MIX TO

Sequence, already shot, of Institute of Launderers Executive Committee in session.

~~Exterior Long Shot Sunlight Laundry, Brixton.~~

Exterior Semi Long Shot of receiving door of Sunlight. Laundry van draws up, having approached facing camera. Driver gets out and goes round to back of van. However, he sees an army lorry approaching. With a gesture he gets back in seat, drives towards and out of picture, making way for army lorry to go to receiving door.

Interior Sequence at Laundry (not long) will be doped out when location has been viewed. It will put over the fact that many machines are idle, owing to lack of labour

Close shot outside telephone box, where we left woman phoning Min. Food. She is putting down receiver. She comes out.


Full C/U woman, speaking to camera, supposedly just outside call box.

Woman: (natural sound) Well, I say it's time they did something about it. You can't live without soap, can you?

SLIP PAN TO

Close shot of Tramp, eating bread and cheese in hedge. As shot begins he looks into camera.

Tramp: Can't live without soap!!! YOU MAKE ME LAUGH!
He makes a gesture and resumes bread and cheese.

*John Cook do without soap
what about me.* 

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It would be all very nice if you could leave it to the laundry. But for a lot of good reasons you can't. For one thing they take about a month of Sundays, and nobody has enough sheets, shirts and short pants to keep going that long.

A famine in labour is the laundries' trouble. They get all the soap they want but that's no use if there are no girls to man the machines.

So the Institute of Launderers called an executive meeting and resolved to send a deputation to the Min. Labour.

At present laundries have to give priority to Army, RAF and hospitals. One way and another they're doing nearly twice as much work as in peacetime on half the labour.

Half the machines are standing idle.

Fully staffed laundries would help the soap situation. Mass washing uses much less soap than home washing. For one thing laundries used softened water. One third of all soap used in hard water is thrown away.

Any heavy the work:

Top of the cabinet, bundles being received
 Pick sorting on to travelling belt

Counters: Sheets off belt
 Forms into receiving machine
 Other goods into mechanical dryer
 Goods into freezing machine and
 out of other kind of machine

All received

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