

NEWS IN BRIEF

Westminster Abbey, the most historic church in Great Britain, is in such decay that the cloisters and perhaps other parts may have to be closed to the public. The appeal for the million-pound restoration fund has only produced 300,000, ~~throughout the country~~ if we don't act now to save this unique church. ~~we must act now to save this unique church~~

The Victor Emanuel war memorial in Rome, Italy is unlikely ever to neglect. It's having now the most thorough clean-up since the war. Men with the nerve of steeplejacks are getting views of the city unequalled even from any of the seven hills. If they want ~~sporting infor-~~ *winner of Regen* ~~they're~~ they're not content with it straight from the horse's mouth, they go right inside.

Rome has everything, ancient and modern, to preserve, whereas Flint, Michigan was a wilderness after the tornado last June. The homeless made do with shacks and trailers, but with winter ahead a big effort was needed. So Operation Tornado was launched by 5,000 professional and volunteer builders. Heatwave notwithstanding they set themselves a target, women joining in. For a start, 186 houses to be put up, or restored in the first two days. Tilling, rejoicing, hammering, onward from dawn to dusk, it recalled the pioneer days. They did it. Nearly 200 homes ready to walk into. Something on which they could really congratulate themselves.