

CLEANING TIME

The great clock tower at Westminster, which houses the world's most famous bell, Big Ben, is a sight the Coronation crowds can hardly miss. So the four enormous faces are having a wash and brush up ready for the great day. Workmen have to have nerves of steel for the job - and one thing they mustn't do is step back to admire their work. Washing powder and water are all they use to polish up the hundreds of panes of glass that make up the faces.

Each face takes about three days to be washed and you can take it from the cleaners that they're darn glad they don't have to do the job more than once in three or four years. But their biggest headache comes when Big Ben strikes the hour - it nearly shakes them off their perch.