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PARLIAMENT COMES CLEAN.

A bewildering maze of scaffolding around Victoria Tower at the Houses of Parliament has long been one of London's greatest eye-sores. But it won't be long before the Tower returns to normal again. Standing 331 feet high, Victoria Tower was put into splints in 1937, but during the war it was taken down in case incendiaries should catch on it. Then in 1950, back it all went again. In the last four years, forty per cent of the stonework has been refaced and given a thorough wash-and brush up. The whole dismantling job is scheduled to take five months which isn't bad going when you consider there was nearly 100 miles of scaffolding to come down.

Many of the stone figures which decorate the Tower have been restored. More scaffolding will be put up later near the base of the tower where there are several more carvings in need of repair.

When the job's finally done, Parliament still won't be free of scaffolding - 95 year old Big Ben is next on the list.

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