BEATING THE BOUNDS -- Beefeaters escort the "executioner" on picturesque promenade of the Tower of London boundaries.

-London-

Picture .:-

The Yeomen of London, better known as Beefeaters, emerge from--

-- the tower to lead the ceremony of --

-- Beating the Bounds. The Yeoman Warden, complete with the Tower Mace--

--of mediaeval authority leads the beaters to the various boundary stones.

The executioner comes along also to cut short any--

-- argument with a stroke of the - - er - axe.

The practice of beating the bounds dates back to---Angle-Saxon times and was initiated to maintain the
Parish--

--boundaries and to ask a blessing upon the coming harvest. The entrance to Trinity House covers one--

--of the boundary marks. Much beating brings them back to the --

-- Tower. Glad to note that the axe is still clean.

All the local school-children are given a day's holiday to thrash the proper--

--places with the customary willow switch, so for once in a --

--while the kiddles delight in a thrashing. The--

--executioner and beef-eaters return to the bl- er the Tower, and the vegetarians go home.