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PARLIAMENT IN SPLINTS - - Work  
started on repairing the Houses of Parliament - - a  
task that will not be completed until 1941.

-Westminster-

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Picture:-

One moment please! Big Ben is to make a  
striking announcement.

(EFFECT).

The voice which carries all over the  
world! As faithfully--

--as the sun marks the day and night, so  
Big Ben marks--

--the hours. His voice is still healthy,  
but his--

--outer-casing is sick. Once, one looked  
down smooth stone sides to Parliament Square - -  
an unusual--

--and magnificent view. Then to Westminster  
Bridge with Father Thames crossing her arching  
feet. But Big--

--Ben's sides are no longer smooth. Atmosphere,  
stronger than masonry has--

--eaten into the stone fabric and renovations must be--  
--done. New carved figures are to replace the ancient  
ones which have seen--

--lines of Kings and Governments pass below them.  
These repairs will take eight years. M.P.'s think--

--eight years is rather too long for recess, so  
Parliament will still sit. There seems no relief for  
tax-payers. But Big Ben must be maintained.

His booming, pulsating strokes are as the  
heart-beats of the Motherland.