

GREAT WARE SALE
Ches
 on E.G.
 95... Half Price £19.95
 95... Sale £9.95
 Half Price £9.95



Vent-Axia
 The first name in unit ventilation...
 look for the name **Vent-Axia** on the product.

31,356

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1981

12p

We'll fight this catastrophe—council chiefs

Trap to net Ulster killers

An emergency debate is being arranged by Liverpool council chiefs to avert the closure of the giant sugar plant.

Meanwhile the leader of Merseyside County Council, Mr. Neville Goldrein, who is also in correspondence with Lord Jellicoe, has written to Merseyside MPs urging them to unite to fend off the closure.

And today, Liberal MP David Alton (Edge Hill), tabled questions in Parliament and put down a motion calling on the Government to stop the closure, bearing in mind Liverpool's high unemployment. He wants an approach to the EEC Parliament about sugar policies.

Sir Trevor Jones's motion to the city council says: "The city council receives with profound dismay the news that the board of Tate and Lyle has decided to close the Liverpool refinery: with the immediate loss of jobs, causing irreparable harm to the economic life of the city."

By Ian Craig

He wants the council to URGE the board of Tate and Lyle not to carry out the closure until it has met a delegation from the city council.
 TO CALL on the appropriate Government departments to help ensure continued sugar production from Liverpool.
 TO REQUEST the European Commissioner for Agriculture to consider ways of relaxing controls over sugar.
 TO ARRANGE special leaders on the council and Chief Executive Mr.

Alfred Stocks / so they can try to prevent the closure.

Sir Trevor said today: "The company should have consulted people on a wider basis. As fast as we're creating jobs, we're destroying others."

In his letter to Merseyside M.P.s: "I can understand on a commercial basis that it may be convenient for Tate and Lyle to close. But Merseyside is the birthplace of the company and they have a strike-free record, a devoted staff.

If production of beet sugar was reduced, it would help Tate and Lyle and he was prepared to meet Agriculture Minister Peter Walker to save the catastrophic loss of jobs.

Why Love Lane Goes

erations and accept social responsibilities."

terrorists who murdered a leading Ulster politician and his son were to-day believed to be trapped in a huge security dragnet.

Hundreds of police and soldiers on both sides of the Armagh-Monaghan border, backed up by helicopters were combing a 10-mile area of hills, fields and woods in one of the biggest cross-border security operations ever mounted.

were the former Speaker of the Ulster parliament Sir Norman Strunge (86), and his ex-MP son, James (48).

The hunt began after Royal Ulster Constabulary officers were involved in a fierce gun battle with at

TATE'S AXE REFINERY — 1,570 CITY JOBS GO

By Colin Wright and John Shaughnessy

Sugar giant Tate and Lyle is to close its Liverpool refinery with the loss of 1,570 jobs.

This new hammer blow to Merseyside's economy was announced today. The news came on the day the company announced its profits had gone up by £4,500,000, to £30,700,000. Shareholders are to get 10p dividend for every share they held during the year.

Company chairman Lord Jellicoe said: "Because of the grave employment implications, the board has taken the decision only with the greatest reluctance. The board is, however, back on a sound footing, and to do this it has to cure the long-standing structural weaknesses of the company's UK sugar refining business."

Shop stewards from the Love Lane refinery were called to a special meeting at Liverpool's Centre Hotel, where they were given the news by Mr. Charles Runge, the com-

March will highlight plight of jobless

The TUC is planning a national march from Liverpool to London to "draw attention of the country to the urgent plight of the unemployed."

The march is to begin on May 1 and end on the weekend of May 29/30. An appeal is being sent to all Labour movement organisations, MPs, churches and voluntary organisations, asking them to sponsor marchers and to join selves.

Mr. Colin Barnett, secretary of the North West region of the TUC, said: "I am delighted this major event has been planned in the North West as a follow-up to the Labour Party TUC demonstration on November 29.

shop stewards trooped out of the Centre's Aintree Suite. They boarded coaches to take the bad news to their colleagues at the refinery.

It is understood that Mr. Runge told the shop stewards that the company simply had to cut production in order to survive.

And that it was at Love Lane where the axe had to fall.

For today's meeting, the Tate and Lyle shop stewards were joined by at least one senior full-time union official — Regional Officer of the G.M.W.U.

Mr. Tony Humphries, whose union has 1,000 members at the refinery.

But neither he nor refinery action committee spokesman John McLean was making any immediate comment.

But another action committee member John Finnigan had spoken before the closure announcement.

And he revealed that contingency plans were in hand in the event of the axe falling.

These involved a mass meeting of the Love Lane work force tomorrow.

Some 1,500 people work at the Liverpool refinery — one of three operated by Tate & Lyle. But with the inevitable "spillover" effect of closure, even more jobs are likely to go in an already work-starved Merseyside.

The company announced the Liverpool closure in a statement accompanying its annual figures.

Tate's said it would be setting aside £30m to cover the cost of closing the Love Lane refinery, with the loss of 1,570 jobs, and the closure of other refineries.

The company's share price jumped 10 pence, to £1.50, on the announcement.



Mr. Albert Sloane, chairman of the Tate and Lyle North West Union Committee joins fellow stewards outside the Love Lane factory on their way to today's meeting.

It could rise to 5,000

Scotland Exchange MP, Mr. Bob Parry, today claimed the Tate and Lyle closure could lead to more than 5,000 redundancies in related Liverpool industries.

"It will have a great effect on brewery businesses, sweet making, confectionary and biscuit industries and I believe the spin-off will lead to the loss of at least 5,000 jobs," he said.

"I have tabled an application with the Speaker for an emergency debate on the closure in the House of Commons this afternoon and, if I am allowed to be heard, I will make urgent representations to Tate and Lyle to ask the Government to see if there are any other options other than closure."

Fam' esc as hi

A f ing a —esc sion New T low che bar per Ke V f

STAR WARS

See Back Page

least eight masked men in the drive of Sir Norman's mansion home, Tynan Abbey, which is less than half-a-mile from the border.

To-day, while the Republic's police and soldiers covered the Monaghan side, hundreds of Special Patrol Group men with dogs, searched farms, out-houses and derelict buildings on the Northern side.

After Sir Norman and his son were killed in a shooting and bomb attack on their home last night, firemen dragged their bodies from the blazing building. Police said both had been shot in the head.

Firemen put out the blaze shortly after 6am, nearly eight hours after

STOP PRESS