Brigade Brave Blast Danger at Works

SHEFFIELD firemen used breathing apparatus to penetrate fumes of a highly inflammable vapour pouring from an oil furnace at a city factory today.

Only a few feet from the furnace, which was in a basement, was a large tank containing light oil. The oil was being fed to the furnace.

Workmen discovered the danger when they arrived for work.

Driven back

An engineer who tried to reach the main electricity switch, to cut off the current and prevent any sparks, was driven back.

After realising it would be dangerous for one man to penetrate the fumes, he called the fire brigade.

The brigade discovered that the furnace, part of an oil-fired central heating system, had become incorrectly ignited.

Normal

A spokesman for the firm, Saturn Industrial Gases Ltd., in Penistone Road, said the main danger was to the oil tank, should the vapour have been ignited.