

Start Probe In Cokeburg Mine Blast Disaster

State Mine Officials Open Investigation Of Blast That Wrecks Mine

PLAN FOR BURIAL OF SIX VICTIMS

(International News Service)
WASHINGTON, Pa., April 4.— State Mine Inspector Alex McCanch of Monongahela, today began a formal investigation on the explosion in the Cokeburg mine of the Bethlehem Mines Corporation at Cokeburg, near here, in which six men were killed and five seriously injured Saturday.

Accompanied by State Inspector C. P. Bryne of Charleroi, McCanch planned to question a number of witnesses, as well as to examine the damaged mine workings.

Funeral services for the victims, will be held Wednesday.

A formal inquest by Coroner William Greenlee, is to follow the mine inspectors' report.

Meantime considerable apprehension was felt for the life of one other victim, C. W. Douglas, who was taken to a Pittsburgh hospital with Andy Demeter, also injured in the blast.

Condition Critical

PITTSBURGH, April 4. — Attaches at Mercy hospital here today reported that C. W. Douglas, one of the two victims of the Cokeburg, Pa., mine disaster brought here for treatment, was in a critical condition as the result of gas poisoning, and was being closely watched. His companions, Andy Demeter also gassed, spent a fairly comfortable night, and was much better today, his nurse said.