

MINERS SILENT ON PROBE OF VOLPE MISHAP

President Kosik To Issue
Statement Within
Few Days

INSPECTORS TO CHARGE

Officers of the United Mine Workers of America in the Scranton district have completed a preliminary investigation of the disaster in the Red Ash vein of the Butler slope, Volpe Coal Company, Pittston Township, last Thursday, but M. J. Kosik, of the union, said this morning that no statement will be issued by him for a few days, at least, on the disaster which brought death to ten men and injuries to six others.

"There is to be a thorough probe of the cause of the disaster and we are not making any statement at this time as to what, if anything, we have learned as to the cause of the explosion," he said.

"The State mine inspectors are to hold a hearing somewhere in the district after they complete their survey of the area in which the gas explosion occurred and we will take an active part in the efforts to determine definitely the cause of the explosion," he added.

Joseph J. Walsh, deputy secretary of mines, announced at his office in Harrisburg that the four State mine inspectors who have been in the Butler slope daily since the day following the explosion, have been directed to hold a hearing early next week.

"We have interviewed persons in the hospital and in the mines to get all possible facts, Walsh said.

He said no report had been made yet and indicated the arrangements for the hearing which may be held Monday, are in the hands of the four inspectors.

Meanwhile Governor Earle's commission, appointed after the explosion to study enforcement of mine laws all through the hard coal fields planned to get together as soon as possible to begin an investigation.

Sen. Leo C. Mundy of Wilkes-Barre, chairman of the commission, is expected to meet with Attorney General Guy K. Bard, also named to the commission, within a few days. The third member, Secretary of Mines Michael J. Hartneady was not available at Harrisburg.