Second Fireman dies after works blast

By a staff reporter

AN EXPLOSION at a Sheffield steelworks a fortnight ago claimed its second victim last night when Fireman Paul Parkin, of Bramley Drive, Handsworth, died in hospital. He was 27.

Sub Officer Bob Smith, aged 47, of Cartmell Road, Woodseats, who was also badly burned in the same incident at British Steel's Tinsley Park works, Shepcote Lane, died in the Northern General Hospital 11 days ago.

Paul, who leaves a widow and two daughters, had been fighting for his life in the Northern General Hospital since he and his colleagues at Sheffield Fire Brigade's Darnall Station attended a routine call to: the works on February 25.

Molten slag which was pouring from a soaking pit exploded and 11 firemen: were injured, five seriously.

Joined In 1969

Six were treated at the Royal Infirmary, but the' other five, all badly burned, were taken to the Northern; General Hospital.

Paul joined the brigade in 1969 and had spent most of his time at Darnall station.

Still detained in the Northern General Hospital is fireman Peter Childe, of Smalldale Road, Frecheville, who was -improving and comfortable" today.

Station Officer Brian Ellis, of Foxwood Road, Intake, Sheffield, and Fireman Robert Codman, of Greenwood Road, Darnall, have been transferred to the Wharncliffe Hospital. Mr. Ellis is "Comfortable" and could be discharged shortly. Mr. Codman is "improving and satisfactory."