

## Death Recalls History

The death of Frank Doerr, 69, of Remus, Mich. recently of silicosis recalled an annal in Wyoming medicine.

Doerr, who formerly lived in Greyball, became known as the first publicized victim of silicosis in a Wyoming bentonite plant.

"His appearance six years ago with massive lung disease and the subsequent medical detective work that identified this lung disease as silicosis caused by dusts in a Wyoming bentonite plant were a landmark in Wyoming medical history," according to Dr. Brendan Phibbs of Casper, chairman of the Industrial Hygiene Committee of the Wyoming State Medical Society.

"This case led to further investigations and the uncovering of many more cases of the same disease. Efforts by the State Medical Society and various public figures subsequently led to enactment of Wyoming's Industrial Hygiene Laws and to inclusion of industrial diseases under Workmen's Compensation," the medical spokesman said.

"At the time Doerr contracted his disease, silicosis and other industrial illnesses were not covered by Workmen's Compensation. Mr. Doerr received a settlement from the bentonite company of slightly under \$10,000 for his total disability which has resulted in his death.

"Physicians of the Wyoming State Medical Society voice hope that the new Industrial Hygiene Commission will take advantage of Wyoming's newly enacted code to see that such tragedies are circumvented in the future," the chairman said.

## Silicosis Death Recalls History

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