Social News and Events of Cambridge

MISS BESSIE BAKER, WELL KNOWN NURSE, DIES

Miss Bessie Baker, one of the most distinguished figures in the American nursing world, died late Tuesday night, June 23, at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Her illness was brief.

Miss Baker was a native of Dorchester County, having lived at East New Market until she was eligible to enter the nursing profession. She was graduated from the Johns Hopkins Training School for Nurses in 1902. She was assistant superintendent of nurses there from 1912 to 1917, when she became chief nurse of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Unit, Base Hospital, No. 18, of which the late Dr. J. M. T. Finney was chief of staff, and which went to France in the first World War.

After the Armistice, Miss Baker returned and took a course at Teachers' College, Columbia University. After her graduation she became superintendent of nurses at Miller Hospital in St. Paul, and also assistant professor of nursing at the University of Minnesota.

In May, 1929, she was called to Duke University in North Carolina as dean of the school of nursing education of Duke University, to organize the new training school for nurses.

She resigned two years ago, and had been living at the Chadford Apartments on University Parkway.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 A. M. Friday, June 26th, at St. David's Chapel, Roland Avenue and Oakdale Road. Burial was in Druid Ridge Cemetery.

She was a niece of Mrs. William E. Johnson and the late John A. Baker of East New Market.

Our fighting men are doing their share. Here at home the least we can do is put 10% of our income in War Bonds for our share in America.

Sandpile, War Style

These children of U. S. navy enlisted men, whose families live in a 1,300-home housing unit at Norfolk, Va., play in a sandpile against a backdrop of protecting sandbags. The sandbags are part of the settlement's model air raid protection.

TECHNOLOGICAL STUDIES BEING MADE ON OYSTERS

In his paper read at the oyster convention in Philadelphia, Mr. Pottinger of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, stated that the annual loss to the oyster industry along the Atlantic Coast from the starfish and oyster drill amounted to about $1,000,000. Studies are now in progress to determine whether these pests may be used commercially in some manner so that the oystermen may at least recover the cost of removing them from the beds.

In his progress report, Mr. Pottinger stressed that his Service is carrying on several lines of experiments in an effort to benefit the oyster industry. These studies include research on the type of bacteria that causes spoilage in oysters, an attempt to find a cheap method to remove the threat of "pink yeast", which is a type of fungus that discolors oysters and makes them unfit to be marketed, an attempt to determine the degree of freshness of shucked oysters by means of hydrogenion concentration, and the advantages of a 1 per cent. brine solution in cleaning oysters by blowing, preparatory to shipping and marketing. Practically all of these questions are of direct concern to the Maryland oyster packer, who at some time, since he has been in the business, has had to meet one or the other of these problems.

"Pink yeast" may be present in the shucking and packing houses in the form of spores. If these are present they will more than likely be picked up by the oyster during the shucking operation. Upon coming in contact with the oyster, the spores reproduce rapidly, producing the characteristic pink color. While this fungus is not in any way detrimental to health if consumed, it spoils the appearance of the oyster and its consequent marketability. This pink coloration is not to be confused with the red color occasionally present in oysters on the rocks, which is probably caused by the presence of certain algae in the natural diet of the oyster.

SELECTIVE SERVICE AS IT AFFECTS THE OYSTERMEN

Speaking before the joint convention of the Oyster Growers and Dealers Association and the National Shellfisheries Association at The Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia on June 11, Major Ernest M. Culligan said that we have approximately sixty million people in the United States capable of productive effort.

It is the job of the selective service to procure men from this group for the armed forces, with the least possible interference with essential production. He explained that in Napoleonic times the efforst of three men in production were required to maintain one soldier. This ratio changed to five to one in World War 1 and it is at least that high today.

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