

John Baker, 'Hoover Of China,' Dies

MILL VALLEY, Calif.—(P)—Funeral services were held today for Dr. John Earl Baker, the "Hoover of China," who died at his home Saturday at the age of 76.

For 34 years Baker was a key figure in relief and industrial programs in China. He first served in that country as adviser to the ministry of communications in 1916.

His last service to China was on the joint commission on rural reconstruction in Formosa, a post to which former President Truman appointed him in 1948.

In the years between, Baker earned the name "Hoover of China" for his service in famine relief. He directed the Red Cross in China during the 1920s.

He also served as chief adviser for the ministry of railways, manager of the Chinese-American wheat syndicate and inspector-general of the Burma Road.

Baker was a native of Wisconsin. He leaves his wife, Willie; two daughters, Frances Baker Ross of Maryland and Barbara Loudon of Pennsylvania; a son, John Jr. of Sebastopol, Calif., and three sisters in Wisconsin. He will be buried in Eagle, Wis.