

ing him wearing a beard. It was taken in the Lawrence Peters South Pacific.

Peters suffered a knee injury in the enemy encounter and is still a patient at the naval hospital in San Diego, Calif., convalescing from his wounds and repeated attacks of malaria. He was awarded the Purple Heart on October 18 by Adm. William F. Halsey.

A member of the famed Seabees, Peters is a veteran of the action on Guadalcanal, Munda and Tulagi, and was based overseas from No-

(Continued on page 3, column 3)

U. S. War Dead Now Total 36,005

Washington, Feb. 21.—(AP)—American casualties in the war now total 157,853, of which 36,005 are dead.

Undersecretary of War Patterson reported today that U. S. Army casualties from Dec. 7, 1941, to February 7, 1944, totalled 118,128, divided as follows: Killed, 19,499; missing, 26,339; prisoners of war, 7,745.

Casualties in the sea services—Navy, Marines and Coast Guard—based on reports up to today have amounted to 39,737, as follows: Killed, 16,506; wounded, 9,322; missing, 9,491; prisoners, 4,418.

Patterson said that of the 45,545 soldiers wounded, 24,289 have returned to duty.

Of the total prisoners, he said, 1,664 have been officially reported by the enemy to have died in prison camps, mostly in Japanese occupied areas. He commented that "it is known that the actual number must, in sad reality, be much larger."

War Hero Medal Given Men But Flyers

Congressional Medal of Honor), for extraordinary heroism in action "above and beyond the call of duty."

The Distinguished Service Cross, for extraordinary gallantry in action.

The Distinguished Service Medal, for exceptional non-combat dis-

Hoover, an experienced and skilled machinist, was employed from about 1885 to 1910 at the foundry of Love Brothers, Inc., where he served as foreman of the machine shop. Altho he was an excellent workman and served his employers well, his chief interest lay in his attempts to develop a high pressure centrifugal engine, powered by hot lead producing a super heated steam.

Altho he had succeeded in perfecting several other inventions, his beloved centrifugal engine was never completed. His plan called for the use of hot lead which, coming in contact with water, would produce a super heated steam to turn the paddles of the engine and produce electricity more efficiently than ever before.

Repeated experiments were made by Hoover in the basement of his home in Garfield avenue, but each resulted in failure, due to his inability to discover a metal which would withstand the intense heat of the lead and the high pressure of the steam which it would produce. On at least two or three occasions, test models of his engine exploded, but with each disaster he would resolutely try again.

His resolve to perfect his crowning invention never faltered and he eventually exhausted his entire life earnings in his experiments, necessitating his moving to the county home almost 18 years ago. Even there, however, he refused to be disheartened and continued to dream of the time when he would be able to present his new engine to the world.

Ironically enough, his engine, had he been successful in perfecting it, would be of little or no practical value today since the use of steam in the generating of electricity has been, to a large extent, replaced by gasoline and Diesel motors.

Hoover was preceded in death by his wife and a son, Albert. He has no surviving relatives so far as can be learned.

DIANNE, LAST OF ALABAMA 'QUADS' DIES

Decatur, Ala., Feb. 21.—(AP)—Dianne Hutto, last of the quad-

LIEUT. W. E. TAYLOR

14, 1944. It brought to her first news that he was in com-

"It was the longest and beautiful letter I had received from him," Mrs. Taylor said. "He wrote me for the first time that he was in combat and wrote that he would not mention it again. He had just received his copy of Beacon-News and was surprised to read that steel workers and road workers were talking. These were his words in the letter: 'When you watch men dying of them your friends, and you are soaking wet day in and day out and you live in slush and m-

(Continued on page 2, column 2)

Wheaton Snow Balling Case Comes to Light

The snowball case which has been the subject of a city of Wheaton agog, came to a close late yesterday afternoon with the withdrawal of a warrant which had been issued by Paul H. Dunakin, 819 Golf course, Wheaton, president of the Wheaton grade school board of education No. 36.

Dunakin had been charged with assault and battery, being charged by Roy A. Watkins of Wheaton, former president of the Wheaton Aircraft company, with beating and injuring Watkins' son, Rob, after the latter had thrown a snowball at Dunakin's car.

The warrant was issued late yesterday afternoon by Justice Will Johnson of Wheaton, upon the complaint of the elder Watkins.

Watkins was represented by Atty. Charles Hadley of Wheaton and Dunakin, who denied the charge, by Atty. John Woods of Wheaton, the same city. Following the hearing between the complainant and their respective attorneys, Hadley, in behalf of Dunakin, yesterday afternoon told Sheriff John Herriman of Wheaton county, and instructed him to return the warrant to Judge Johnson unserved. This was done.

Neither Watkins nor Dunakin were present at the hearing.



Water around food dumps and mess tents at virtually all Army camps above are common. Photo shows an aged Italian woman reaching for a meal just served American troops. Holding the tray is

SON WOUNDED, PURPLE HEART SENT PARENTS

The Purple Heart award earned by Lawrence V. Peters, C. M. 2-c, when he was injured in a naval engagement in the South Pacific on April 7, 1943, has just been received by the sailor's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Peters, 253 South Lake street. With the medal came a picture of their son, showing him wearing a beard. It was taken in the South Pacific.

Peters suffered a knee injury in the enemy encounter and is still a patient at the naval hospital in San Diego, Calif., convalescing from his wounds and repeated attacks of malaria. He was awarded the Purple Heart on October 18 by Adm. William F. Halsey.

A member of the famed Seabees, Peters is a veteran of the action on Guadalcanal, Munda and Tulagi, and was based overseas from No-

(Continued on page 3, column 3)

U. S. War Dead Now Total 36,005

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Undersecretary of War Patterson reported today that U. S. Army casualties from Dec. 7, 1941, to February 7, 1944, totalled 118,128, divided as follows: Killed: 19,490;

Death in County Home Ends His Invention Dream

Walter Hoover, 82, Spends Life Earnings Trying to Perfect Machine

His life earnings having been exhausted in his endeavor to perfect an invention with which he hoped to revolutionize the industrial world, Walter Hoover, 82, of Aurora, died at 7 o'clock this morning at the Kane County home near Batavia, where he had been confined for almost 18 years.

Hoover, an experienced and skilled machinist, was employed from about 1885 to 1910 at the foundry of Love Brothers, Inc., where he served as foreman of the machine shop. Altho he was an excellent workman and served his employers well, his chief interest lay in his attempts to develop a high pressure centrifical engine, powered by hot lead, producing a super heated steam.

Altho he had succeeded in perfecting several other inventions, his beloved centrifical engine was never completed. His plan called for the use of hot lead which, coming in contact with water, would produce a super heated steam to turn the paddles of the engine and produce electricity more efficiently than ever before.

Repeated experiments were made by Hoover in the basement of his home in Garfield avenue, but each resulted in failure, due to his inability to discover a metal which would withstand the intense heat of the lead and the high pressure of the steam which it would produce. On at least two or three occasions, test models of his engine

his country on the 25th January in Italy. Letter follows.

Ullo, Adjutant General
Last Letter to Wife

Mrs. Taylor, who was married to the young soldier Nov. 2, 1941, several months after he had called to active duty, received last letter from her husband



LIEUT. W. E. TAYLOR

14, 1944. It brought to her first news that he was in combat. "It was the longest and most beautiful letter I had received from him," Mrs. Taylor said. "He wrote me for the first time that he was in combat and wrote that he would not mention it again. He had just received his copy of Beacon-News and was surprised to read that steel workers and road workers were talking. These were his words in the letter: 'When you watch men dying, of them your friends, and yet you are soaking wet day in and day out and you live in slush and mud'."

(Continued on page 2, column 2)

Wheaton Snow Balling Case Comes to E

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