

Bellefonte, Pa., March 7, 1919.

F. GRAY MEEKS, Editor

To Correspondents.—No communications published unless accompanied by the real name of the writer.

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HOW THEY MET THE HUNS.

Centre County Soldier Tells His Experience in the Big War.

The following interesting letter was written to George Burwell, of Pine Grove Mills, by his brother, private Arthur L. Burwell, of Company H, 314th Infantry, who took part in some of the decisive fighting in the Argonne region just before the close of the war:

Rosnes, France, Feb. 3, 1919. I just wrote a letter home yesterday, but as there is not much to do here now will write again. There are all kinds of rumors in the air about going home, going over into Germany and then about going back to Fretts. Fretts is where we did our training before we went to the front. I'll now try and tell you about our trip from the time we left Camp Meade.

We left there on the sixth of July and sailed from Hoboken on the eighth. We came over on the Leviathan, which used to be the German Vaterland. We had a fine trip over, no storms. We landed at Brest on July 15th, marched out five miles to a rest camp, went back in the afternoon and paraded through Brest then returned to camp for the night. At three o'clock on the morning of the 16th we were hustled out, rolled our packs in the mud and a pouring rain, marched back to Brest, and entrained for three days and three nights, forty men to a box car, ate corned beef and bread and when we came to the end of our ride went over into a field and slept that night on the ground. Next morning we hiked about fifteen miles to Puz, where we arrived about "all in." We stayed there three or four days then rolled our packs and lay along the road two days waiting for trucks. At last, oh, joy! they came, and they carried us to Fretts. We trained there six weeks. Next we hiked fifteen miles to a little dump and took the train to Puz. There we just rested and ate and prepared to go to the front.

Our hike from Fretts we shall never forget. We carried two blankets, an extra pair of shoes, towel, haversack and pack camera, shelter half, rifle belt, bayonet, canteen, mess kit, and 200 rounds of ammunition. It was some load, believe me. Our next move was partly in trucks. They took us up to where we could see the Huns throw up their defense plans. We stayed there several days and then went a little nearer to some dugouts. We stayed there about a week then moved up a little closer.

We then camped in the woods about a week. It was at that time that I went up to the front a day or two before the company. I accompanied Lieut. Campbell and other officers on a survey of the sector we were to take over. Two days later we went up in the night, slept in shell holes and the next morning we went over the top for the first time. 'Twas some excitement. We captured some prisoners and met up with quite a number of Boche machine guns and snipers, but we did not care for them. They shelled us very hard all the time. We hammered at them for five and one-half days. Saw many dead Germans lying around. We lost a few men, too.

After the first drive I took sick and had to go to the field hospital. They marked me "flu" and sent me back to base 89, located near Pusan. The doctors there said I had gotten a little fogsene gas. However, I was all o. k. in ten days and went back to the company just as they rolled their packs to go back into another drive.

We went up into Death valley. It was a terrible place. The Huns shelled a little hill upon which we were located and killed and wounded quite a lot of our men. We also had trouble with our rations. The dirty devils continually shot gas and shrapnel barges on the only road up there so that our supply wagons couldn't get through. After a few days we again went over the top and kept on going over until the war ended.

When the armistice went into effect at 11 a. m. on November 11th we were in a very critical position. We had advanced to a little hill, in fact quite a good sized hill, which was well fortified by Hun machine guns reinforced with artillery. Guess the Boche would have finished us if our artillery hadn't come up when it did.

I shall never forget November 11th. The Huns and doughboys met on the line and talked. Some of them could speak English quite well. They told us that they knew the Kaiser had fled the throne and that they had intended to fight whether the armistice was signed or not.

We kept guards on the lines for several days. I was among the first put on and I'll long remember that night. The fireworks shot into the air by the Germans beat any Fourth of July celebration I have ever seen. We all built fires and made ourselves as comfortable as possible. That sure did help lying in shell holes and trenches where we could not even smoke a cigarette without getting a thousand or so bullets rattling around our dome.

Sherman was more than right. War is hell, and I believe any one who saw the front lines will say the same.

I am going to Chaumont tomorrow so will have to quit now and cut Sergt. DuBois' curly locks tonight.

ARTHUR L. BURWELL.

Interesting News of Men in the Service.

J. Mac Heinle returned home from New York on Sunday, having been given a provisional discharge from the United States marines, though his name has been retained on the reserve list. Mr. Heinle enlisted in the marines the after part of last summer and was sent to Paris Island for training. He spent seven weeks there then was given duty on board ship and visited Cuba, Hayti, San Domingo, returning north to New York. He landed there just in time to go on board the George Washington and made one trip to France and back, the transport putting in at Bordeaux and Brest. At Brest he had three hours shore leave so he managed to get his feet on French soil, even if it was for a brief time only. Returning he contracted the flu and spent several weeks in the naval hospital at Brooklyn, having been discharged from that institution less than three weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Lambert, of Bellefonte, have received from their son, private William Lambert, a number of citations showing what the 109th field artillery did during the war and in them we find private Lambert mentioned on two occasions for bravery and meritorious conduct. The first time was on September 7th, 1918, when private Lambert was one of five soldiers who volunteered to keep the lines of communication open between two positions during a heavy enemy artillery bombardment, which they did. In commenting on the fact the citation states that "Sergt. Arthur Newton, of Battery B, and private William Lambert, of Headquarters company, were especially brave and daring in keeping communications open while under direct observation and shell fire." In the casualty list of the regiment the only Bellefonte name to appear is that of John L. Steele among the wounded.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Harry Eberhart have been considerably disappointed this week over the cancelling of an anticipated visit home of their son, Doyle Eberhart. The young man is in the naval service and recently wrote that he was expecting a furlough and being home this week, but on Monday the family received a telegram from him announcing the fact that his visit would have to be postponed as he had received orders to sail today on the Jueau, bound for Antofagasta, Chili.

Sirn Lyons, of Lyontown, arrived home from France on Sunday and notwithstanding the fact that the young soldier has the appearance of being in fine shape physically, he is far from being a well man. His eyesight was badly injured by gas and he was so badly shell-shocked that his hearing is greatly impaired. The young soldier did not know a word of the death of his father last December until he landed in Bellefonte on Sunday.

The two German bayonets hanging in the "Watchman" office window are from Ralph Musser, who sent them to his father, George H. Musser, of Milesburg. The young soldier picked them up on one of the battlefields of France and they are unquestionably frightful-looking implements of warfare, especially one of them, which is keen-edged as a dagger on one side and saw-toothed on the other.

Charles D. Spangler, son of Mrs. Nathan D. Spangler, of Blanchard, has been awarded the distinguished service cross for bravery in action. Private Spangler enlisted in the marines soon after war was declared upon Germany and was a member of the battalion of the 6th regiment which stood like a stone wall at Chateau Thierry and held the Huns at bay in their mad rush for Paris.

Edward Sunday, one of the original Troop L men but who was prevented from going overseas because of his physical condition, arrived home on Wednesday, having been given an honorable discharge from service.

Ellery White, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John White, returned home last week from service overseas and is in fine shape physically.

Lieut. Harold Foster, son of Mr. and Mrs. Phil D. Foster, of State College, returned home on Tuesday, evidently having been given his provisional discharge.

Word from over seas in the early part of the week told of several Bellefonte boys who are either at embarkation ports or concentration camps waiting for the order which will send them home.

Included in the casualty list on Tuesday was the name of Victor B. Dann, of Bellefonte, as slightly wounded.

J. M. McGarvey returned home last week from his term of service over seas, having spent six months or more in France.

Word has been received from France that Theodore Davis Boal has been promoted from captain to colonel.

When General Pershing landed in France he went to visit the tomb of Lafayette. Kneeling at his tomb he murmured these words, "Lafayette, We Come," a picture which will be shown at the Lyric theatre Thursday, March 13. Not a war picture. 10-11

A SOLDIER'S VACATION.

Private Dean Barnhart Tells How He Spent His in France.

The American doughboy surprised the world with his fighting qualities as displayed on the battle fields of France, but notwithstanding their fighting abilities they have an eye for the beautiful and know how to appreciate the old world scenery, as is evidenced in the following letter from private Dean Barnhart, of the 8th company, transportation corps, to his mother, Mrs. Thomas Barnhart, telling of how he spent his fortnight's vacation:

France, January 10, 1919. Well, I am back at work again after living a life of ease and luxury for a fortnight, and although the work now seems a little irksome I will try and give you an idea of my trip. I left St. Navaire one day at exactly 8:56 p. m. and after an all night's ride arrived in Paris at 7:15 the next morning. Leaving the station I took the subway, (acknowledged to be the best subway system in the world), went to the Y. M. C. A., located a hotel and secured information as to all the sight-seeing trips. After washing up and getting something to eat I took a rubberneck bus trip around the city and in the afternoon went out to Versailles and saw the place where the peace treaty will be signed.

At Versailles I took a trip through the palace and grounds of Louis XIII, and take it from me it is some place; in fact the most beautiful I have ever seen or ever expect to see. Caretakers told me that before the war three thousand men and three thousand horses were constantly employed keeping the place in order and repair.

In the evening I went to a show in one of the Paris theatres and all the next day I spent in walking through the parks and going through the big stores. I also visited the Eiffel tower and the tomb of Napoleon. There are many wonderful sights to see everywhere. Guns, cannon and airplanes, trophies of the war, are parked on all the streets as silent witnesses of the grim struggle. The streets are wide and the buildings beautiful, so that the city is rightfully named gay Paris.

Leaving there in the evening my next stop was Lyons, which reminds me very much of Paris. I stayed there one day then went to Marseilles. This is a seaport city and noted for fine faces and cloth. It has many fine Catholic churches and public buildings. A rich French lady took us to her home and gave a party for our benefit. We had a swell feed and a nice time and before we left some orphan children whom she was taking care of gave us a lot of souvenirs.

I spent two days taking in the sights of Marseilles then went on to Nice, and that is certainly a swell place. It is a city of 50,000 people and was founded in the year 530. It was a favorite resort for Germans before the war but now the British predominate. The King and Queen of England invariably go there every year after Christmas and stay until April. It is just like Palm Beach, Florida. The city has about four hundred hotels for tourists and they are all wonderful. At Nice one can look up at the Alps and see the snow-clad mountains and at the same time reach up to a tree and pluck a tangerine. It seemed like old times when we were down in Florida to see the people in the sea bathing. I stayed two days looking the place over then continued on my sight-seeing trip.

My next stop was Monaco, where the famous Monte Carlo is located. To see all these places is worth a thousand dollars to any man. Monte Carlo is the place where fortunes are won and lost in a night. I got a few chips from the gaming tables as souvenirs then left the house of gamblers. Crossing the street I went into what is said to be the swellest hotel in the world. It has preserved a list of all the noted people who stopped there and it is a big record.

The next day I went into Italy and spent a day very pleasantly. Returning from the border I stopped long enough to go through the palace and museum of the Prince of Monaco. One of the Prince's hobbies is collecting relics of the sea and in his museum he has about everything in that class, even mines and submarines, diamonds and pearls of rare value, etc. The Prince is still living and was in Paris when President Wilson arrived. I was there then and saw them both in the parade.

From Monaco I went to Grasse, the city of perfume. The town is in one of the best flower-growing districts of France and in the neighborhood of one hundred and fifty perfumeries are located there. They are quite a sight and the air is perfume-laden all the time. A number of old prisons and monasteries are located at Grasse.

From there I went to Cannes and the one thing that impressed me most there was a street that the sun never shines on. There is a constant mist falling similar to that under the falls at Niagara Falls, but notwithstanding the dampness and darkness people live there apparently none the worse for this peculiarity. I spent several days at Cannes, resting part of the time and at other times taking walks up the Alps and through the beautiful parks just to view the natural scenery and the old Roman arenas.

Returning I stopped at Dijon, which is about 30 kilometres (25 miles) from Isurville where Lester Musser and some other Bellefonte boys are located. I wanted very much to go up and see them but the Francs were getting pretty low in my pocket and I still had some distance to go, so had to

give up that trip. From Dijon I went to Paris, then Tours and Nantes before returning to St. Navaire. My entire trip was about two thousand miles, and I had the greatest time of my life.

I was in Nice for Christmas and had a delightful time. In the morning I went to the Y. M. C. A. where they gave me a Christmas box filled with candy, cigars, chewing tobacco and chocolate. They also gave me a lunch free. In the afternoon they had a very good show. Later I took a walk along the beach where all the idle rich sit and sun themselves and figure out who they will pluck the next day. At six o'clock I went to a hotel for dinner and it was quite a feast. I can't tell you the bill-of-fare, because it was in French, but it was very good. They had boiled celery, which tasted like a chop suey. After dinner all the boys were furnished French girls as partners and we danced until four o'clock in the morning. The hotel was decorated with roses and flowers and I had a big Christmas, even if I was in the army.

I spent New Year's day in Paris but they do not celebrate the day there as they do in the States. I was in the cafe where Vernon Castle and wife danced their way to fame and fortune, took in the Zizzig Follies in the afternoon and in the evening went to see Gaby Deslys, the celebrated actress the King of Portugal presented with a string of valuable pearls. I saw the same show in Pittsburgh but it was better over here. It was all rendered in English and the accompaniment was played by an American jazz band, so that it made a person feel as if he were back in the good old States.

Well, I have earned my service stripe, have had my vacation and the war is over, so I am ready to go back any time. I wish it were tomorrow, and I suppose my turn will come some of these days, though it may not be before Easter. I see the boys loading up every day and I am a little jealous of them, but the branch of the service I am in may keep me here indefinitely.

DEAN BARNHART.

Centre County Soldiers Cited for Gallantry.

The "Watchman" yesterday received from Captain Wilbur F. Leitzell, of Company A, 107th machine gun battalion, a small brochure entitled "New Year Greetings," which contained numerous citations in connection with the fighting of the division and regiment with which the machine gun unit was connected. Among them appears one under date of October 20th which says:

"The division commander desires me to express his appreciation of the work performed in the offensive of the Valley of the Aire and in the Argonne forest from September 26th to October 9th, by all the officers and soldiers of the 107th machine gun battalion, who, during that time gave their best efforts towards assuring the success of the operation.

"The work during the entire period was constantly aggressive and worthy of commendation, but the support given the infantry in the defense of Apremont and again in the attack of Chateau Chehery was especially noteworthy.

By Command of Maj. Gen. Muier.

Under date of December 31st Capt. Leitzell issued an order as follows:

"It gives me great pleasure to record in company orders a tribute to the valorous conduct of the following named enlisted men of this company who have distinguished themselves by extraordinary gallantry in connection with the battle of the Argonne."

Then follows a list of fifty-nine names of non-commissioned officers and men, among them the following from Centre county: Sergeants John T. Saylor and Robert T. Willard, Bellefonte; wagoners Daniel A. Krumrine and Harry R. Mingle, (the latter being wounded); and private Donald T. Hile, of Pleasant Gap, killed in action.

Maj. David Dale to Return Soon.

Orders have been issued for the return of the unit in charge of Evacuation Hospital 8 to the United States as early as transportation can be supplied.

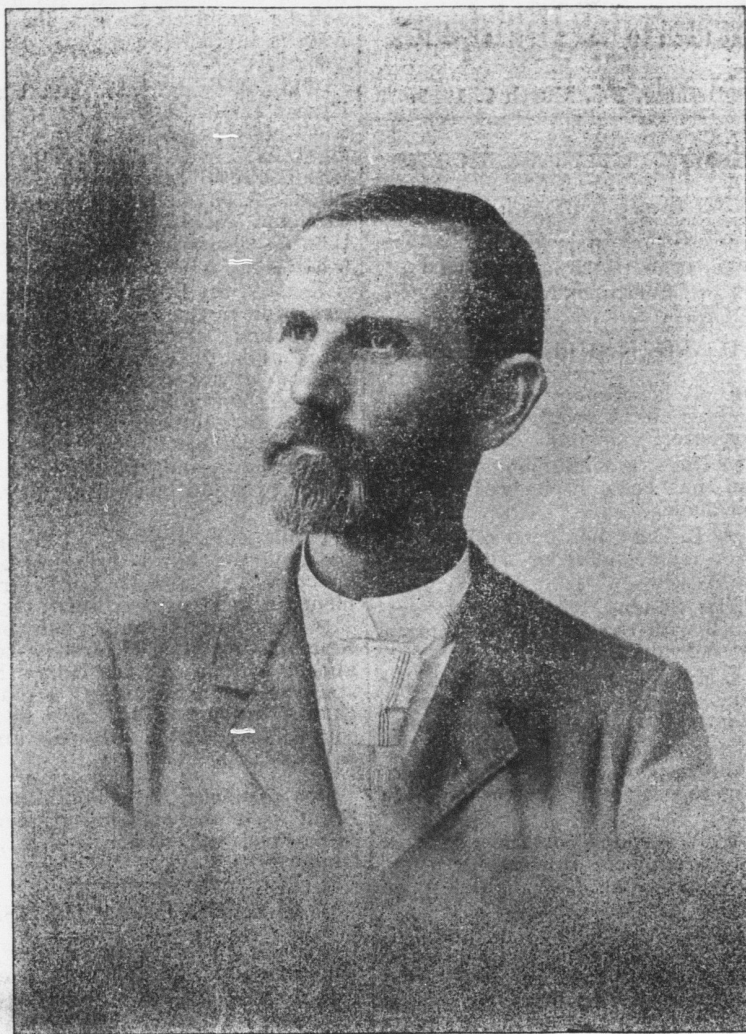
As this is the unit to which Maj. Dale is attached his friends look for his return home not later than the middle of April and, possibly earlier. Certainly he has more than earned an early release and surely he has given a lot to this country, for almost before he could get settled back to the large practice he sacrificed to go to The Border America went into the world war and on October 1st, 1917, he left again and went to Camp Oglethorpe, Georgia, where he was in training until May 1st, 1918, when he sailed for France.

The several letters the "Watchman" was privileged to publish over his signature revealed the strenuousness of his work over there, but that wouldn't phase Dr. Dale. He always was "a horse to work." The long absence from his family and his practice is what counts with a man like him and having done his duty he's entitled to his release.

—Large comedy program Monday at Scenic. Chas. Chaplin in "Shoulder Arms," his best picture. Mack Sennett comedy, "Blighted Love," and Pathe news. Matinee 5 and 10c, night 10 and 15c 10-11

—Extra special at the Lyric theatre Thursday, March 13. Matinee 2:30 —"Lafayette, We Come"—night 6:30, 10-11

—For high class Job Work come to the "Watchman" Office.



DR. W. S. GILLILAND.

Dr. William S. Gilliland.

In the death of Dr. William S. Gilliland, which occurred at his home in Karthaus, Pa., Tuesday evening, February 18th, 1919, Clearfield county and the community at large lost one of its best and most influential citizens.

William Smith Gilliland was born at Potter's Bank (or Potter's Mills), Centre county, on December 9th, 1842, being the second son of John and Lydia Smith Gilliland. In November, 1858 or 1859, the family removed to Salt Lick, Clearfield county, and William taught several terms of school in that vicinity. A few years later he took up the study of medicine under the tutelage of Dr. J. W. Potter, then a practicing physician in the vicinity of his new home. Later he attended Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and after the completion of his course there, took up the active practice of medicine, besides being interested in the mercantile business, locating at Central Point, now Keewaydin, Pa., about the year 1872.

The financial panic which swept the country (following the Civil war, being at its worst) between the years 1873 to 1879—swept away practically all the savings which had been accumulated up until that period, and the subject of our sketch, then removed to LeContes Mills, Clearfield county, to again take up life's battle and re-establish himself. He continued in the mercantile business and in the practice of medicine at the latter place until 1890.

In the year 1890 he built a comfortable home at Karthaus and embarked in the hardware business, continuing in the active practice of medicine until 1913, when ill health compelled his retirement, after an active practice extending over forty years. About 1915 he disposed of his hardware interests and retired, being a constant sufferer during the past five years of his life, from rheumatism and other complications, which disease was contracted during the many years he served the community as physician, with the hardships which go with the active life of the country doctor.

In politics, Dr. Gilliland was a staunch Democrat of the Jeffersonian school, and in religious conviction, of the Presbyterian faith. He bore the last five years of his life—almost constant suffering, with true christian fortitude, and abiding faith in the life eternal. Funeral services were conducted from the home, Rev. Reeve, Presbyterian minister from Clearfield; Rev. McCurdy and Rev. Cooke, of the Methodist church, of Clearfield and Port Matilda, officiating; burial having been made in the Union cemetery, Keewaydin, Pa., February 22nd.

In 1870, Dr. Gilliland was united in marriage to Martha A. Murray, daughter of the late Alexander Murray, of LeContes Mills, Pa., and sister of the late Thomas H. Murray, of Clearfield. To this union thirteen children were born, six of whom, with Mrs. Gilliland, survive, to mourn the loss of a kind father and loving husband.

WION.—Mrs. Jane Swabb Wion, widow of Daniel Wion, died at her home in Centre Hall on Wednesday evening of last week as the result of a stroke of paralysis sustained a week previous. She was born in Juniata county on January 11th, 1838, hence had reached the advanced age of 81 years, 1 month and 15 days. Sixty-one years ago she was united in marriage to Mr. Wion and the first twenty-one years of their married life were spent in Nittany valley. Forty years ago they moved to Centre Hall and that place had been the family home ever since.

Mr. Wion died seven years ago but surviving her are the following children: Frank Wion, of Bellefonte; Mrs. Annie Reish, of Pleasant Gap; Mrs. William A. Carson, of Woodward; Mrs. R. C. Holmes, of Bellefonte, and Mrs. Richard Brooks, of Centre Hall. Rev. Kurtz had charge of the funeral services which were held last Saturday, burial being made in the Centre Hall cemetery.

RITNER.—Mrs. Anna Ritner, widow of the late John B. Ritner, died quite suddenly at her home at Struble at three o'clock last Saturday afternoon of heart trouble and dropsy. She had been a sufferer the past year or more but was able to be up and about until recently. On Saturday it was decided to bring her to the Bellefonte hospital for treatment, in accordance with her expressed desire. A car was secured and neighbors carried her out and placed her in the machine and were engaged in wrapping her up securely so she could make the trip to Bellefonte as comfortably as possible when she suddenly expired.

Her maiden name was Anna Ritner and she was born near Huntingdon on September 2nd, 1849, hence was in her seventieth year. The family had been residents of Centre county for many years. Mr. Ritner died in 1909 and several years later their only son, Blair Ritner, went west and located in Illinois. Shortly thereafter Mrs. Ritner went to Philadelphia to live with her sisters but she did not take to city life and returned to Centre county, establishing her home at Struble. In addition to her son Blair she is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Jane Cassidy and Miss Esther Ritner, both of Philadelphia.

Rev. Hawkins had charge of the funeral services which were held at her late home at two o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, burial being made in the Pine Hall cemetery.

HARTSOCK.—William A. Hartsock, a leading and well known citizen of Huston township, died at his home at Martha on Wednesday night of last week following more than a year's illness.

He was a son of Hayes and Susan Hartsock and was born on April 7th, 1845, hence was 73 years, 15 months and 19 days old. He learned the carpenter trade when a young man and for a number of years followed that occupation and painting. In 1882 he purchased a farm in Huston township and proved very successful in killing the soil living on the farm until his death. He served three years during the Civil war and was a brave and valorous soldier. He was an ardent advocate of temperance all his life and has always maintained that total prohibition would come some day.

On January 21st, 1868, he was united in marriage to Miss Susan Williams, who survives with the following children: Ira B. of Warriorsmark; Charles F. of Clearfield; A. O., of Hollidaysburg; Don C., of Altoona; Mrs. John B. Meek, of Waddle; William A. Jr., of Los Angeles, Cal.; Ralph R., Robert I., Lina and Kathryn, at home. He also leaves one brother and a sister, H. H. Hartsock, of Huntingdon, and Mrs. Alice Irvin, of Inglewood, Cal. Burial was made last Saturday afternoon.

SMITH.—Adam Smith, a former resident of Spring township, died in Pittsburgh last Saturday of blood poisoning, the result of an injury on his face. He was in the neighborhood of seventy years of age and left Centre county four or five years ago. He leaves two widowed daughters and a son. The remains were brought to Bellefonte on Monday and taken direct to the Union cemetery for burial.

ROWAN.—John H. Rowan, a native of Buffalo Run valley, died at his home in DuBois on January 23rd. He was a brother of J. W. Rowan, of Buffalo Run. He was the father of twelve children, seven girls and five boys. Three of his boys and a son-in-law were in the United States service. For a number of years past Mr. Rowan had been engineer at the DuBois iron works.

Eggs for Sale.—Barred Plymouth-rock eggs for hatching.—Miss G. M. DUBBS, Commercial phone. 10-4t

Lost.—White-brilliant studded barrette. Please return to Miss Helen Overton, Bellefonte, Pa. 10-11*

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."