

THE BRA

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Thornton's Mill Is Total Loss In Early Evening Fire

The Office Window

Two cases of housebreaking last week in Bradford have roused not only concern but indignation among citizens generally. Circumstances would seem to indicate that in both cases the owners and occupants of the houses broken into were under observation by the thief or thieves, and their time of absence from their homes noted. We know that city residents suffer from this lack of security in their homes but we usually consider that private residences in a small town are comparatively safe. Evidently they are not. It certainly is the duty of every citizen who has seen, or in the future does see, anyone acting in a suspicious manner, or any circumstance which is unusual, to call the police and give them the opportunity to investigate. If the incident proves to be perfectly innocent, no embarrassment need be experienced by anyone, and if a thief is caught the informant may well be proud of his contribution to the maintenance of law and order in our community. We have no place for the thief in Bradford—there is plenty of work for those willing to work. . . . In this

W. H. Thornton's mill and the machinery in it are practically a complete loss as the result of fire, discovered about 8:30 o'clock Wednesday evening.

Located on the southern fringe of the town, south of Cousins' creameries, the building appeared to be doomed when the fire was discovered. Believed to have broken out near the roof, crossed wires or a hot-box are suspected as the cause. By the time the alarm was given the roof was a mass of flames.

Mr. Thornton had left the mill at 2:30 p.m. but the workmen report that there was no sign of fire at 5 o'clock closing time. When the fire was discovered Mr. Thornton was attending the local theatre and by the time he was located and reached the scene about all the firemen could attempt to do was keep the fire from spreading.

The loss is a heavy one, and machinery, especially, will be hard to replace. However, Mr. Thornton has many orders waiting and he started to work on Monday morning on the rebuilding program.

The fire loss was only partially covered by insurance.