

July 9, 1920

THREE HOUSES BURGLARIZED.

Last Friday night an unusual occurrence happened in town when next morning it was reported that three houses had been burglarized. The homes of Messrs. J. S. Hillsman, L. Fariss and W. O. Bowers Jr. all reported they had been visited by burglars. Mr. Hillsman reported the loss of a pair of trousers, a watch valued at around \$75 and some small change that were in the trousers, and some silk shirts belonging to his son. Mr. Hillsman said the children were out the night the burglary happened, when they retired and he left the front screen door, unhooked so they could get in when they arrived home and the last one in did not hook the screen when coming in. Mrs. Hillsman said she heard the children when they came in. Mr. Fariss went to church that night and wore his new summer suit recently purchased and which he had just had pressed. Returning home he cast them aside as usual and next morning when he began to look for his suit it was gone, also his watch which he paid \$10.00 for some two years ago, and a couple of \$1 bills and some small change which were in the trousers pockets. The burglar entered the house from the rear hall door and had to step over his little boy who was sleeping in the hall, to get into the room where Mr. Fariss was sleeping. W. O. Bowers Jr. said he got up that morning and missed his purse containing several railroad passes and other papers of value to no one but himself. Said they sometimes latched the front screen and sometimes they didn't. The Hillsman residence was the only place where tracks were found which showed to be a large barefooted foot print in the room only a short distance from the bed where Mr. Hillsman was sleeping, which showed they had tramped through the dew and on the gravel and the print was plain. None of them knew anything about being burglarized until next morning. Sunday afternoon the Sheriff was told some clothes were noticed under the steps of the church near the Compress. Going over he pulled the suit belonging to Mr. Fariss and the trousers belonging to Mr. Hillsman out from under the steps, but all contents gone. No clew so far has been found.