

In the early morning of July 21st, 1915, the "Gypsum Queen", which had sailed from a Canadian port loaded with lumber and was bound for Preston, England, foundered—as the result of an alleged torpedo attack from a submarine—the rescue of the crew being made by the liner "Cymric" of the White Star line.

Notwithstanding the fact the loss of the schooner was sustained during 1915, no claim for the vessel was made until 1929; compensation in the sum of more than \$70,000 being granted in 1931. Subsequent investigations, however, disclosed the fact that the money had been obtained illegally and that the whole story regarding the sinking of the vessel had been fabricated; the loss of the "Gypsum Queen" having been brought about actually by natural causes. The log of the "Cymric" proved, in fact, that the vessel sank over five hundred miles west of Fastnet in an area which, at the time of the sinking, it was established, was not frequented by submarines.

An exhaustive investigation in respect to this case was conducted in England, Canada and the United States, and conclusive evidence of fraud was secured. Hatfield was finally extradited and returned to Canada, where he was sentenced on September 23rd, 1937, to serve a term of eighteen months' imprisonment for an infraction of Section 405 of the Criminal Code.

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Information was received by our Officer Commanding at Edmonton from the Fire Underwriters Investigation Bureau that over a period of years extending from 1932 to 1936 the following property owned by members of the Zukowski family had been destroyed by fire and insurance collected:

<i>Location</i>	<i>Insurance Collected</i>
House at Wildwood.....	\$1,209.87
Bungalow at Wildwood.....	1,053.45
1928 Chevrolet Coach.....	200.00
Bungalow in Edmonton.....	1,067.60
1935 Dodge Sedan.....	1,005.00
2 Barns and Implement Shed, burnt.....	Not paid

The suspicious circumstances surrounding the burning of the barn and implement shed were the cause of a request for a thorough investigation by the Fire Underwriters. During the investigation of this last fire, it was found that the Zukowski's were indebted to the Swanson Lumber Company to the extent of slightly over three thousand dollars. This Company had offered to cancel the debt upon payment of one-third of the total sum; which meant that if the Zukowski's could raise slightly more than one thousand dollars, they could pay off their three thousand dollar debt. It was found that Walter and his brother Nick Zubowski, particularly Walter, had made several attempts to obtain insurance during the closing months of the year 1935 and during the early part of 1936, and that each time they had made application and had paid a deposit on the premium, their application was refused when it reached the Insurance Company's head office. As a result the policies were never issued.

It would appear that Walter Zukowski decided to attempt a different tactical approach, when, on April 28th, 1936, he went to a local Company and obtained insurance protection for all his farm buildings. The fire occurred