Some Items To Account For

I am often asked during character creation or game play, what would anyone ever use the accounting skill for? Most people see accounting as something that would have no place in a fantastic world filled with eldritch horrors and lurking cultists. It makes one wonder why the creators of the Call of Cthulhu system would have the skill featured prominently on the character sheet for all to amaze and wonder. Well have no fear keepers and players alike, I am about to put forth some uses for this skill that will not only be useful but could provide the pivotal clue that will unlock the doors to terrible Mythos threat that lies beneath every good Call of Cthulhu scenario.

First of all what is accounting? Accounting or accountancy is the measurement, processing and communication of financial information about economic entities such as businesses and corporations. Well if you haven’t fallen asleep yet I applaud you, but what does this mean in the world of CoC. Well it means you can play a character that everyone underestimates and when the time is right unleash your unbridled accounting fury. Or you can spend the night digging into the books of that company, owned by the cult leader, that you just know is trafficking mythos items. Kidding aside your accounting skills can come in handy in many situations, it just takes a bit of creative thinking.

Let me just lay out some hypothetical instances where your mild mannered accountant can come in quite handy. Lets say your group is trying to find the house where a person of interest might be keeping their next victim. Well lets take a look into the man’s finances for a bit and see where hes been spending his money. Ah we found that he has made some purchases on the south side, and looking into the records of his parents we find that they owned a house in that neighborhood. Its a good bet that is the house he is using to hide his victims. Now you can send in the gun wielding folks to do the dirty work. See you may be lifted onto the shoulders of your teammates with the crowed going wild yet.

Looking for that mythos tome that has the incantation you need to send that pesky dark entity back into the void. You can go shake down cultist after cultist but you know they can be pretty tight lipped and lets face it, the god they worship will do much worse to than you ever could. How about let the accountant take crack at, a few hours with the bank account and voila we see that the book was purchased at Stanford’s Rare Books and Curiosities. Now its a quick trip to Sanford’s to see if he remembers the person who bought it. Maybe he has an address on file or a phone number.