

F. T. UNDERHILL

F.R.C.S. (EDIN.) D.P.H., F.R.S.I.
MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER

PHONE SEYMOUR 3720



Health Department

CITY HALL

VANCOUVER, B. C. December 7th, 1917.

Chairman and Members of the Board
of Police Commissioners,
Vancouver, B. C.

Gentlemen:-

I beg to give you the following information with regard to the work and remuneration of the City Analyst, Mr. Vance.

Mr. Vance's salary is \$175 a month - of this the Health Department pays \$120, the Board of Works \$18, the Water Department \$18 and the Police Department \$19. The Health Department in addition to the above item also pays \$50 a month for laboratory help and \$45 a month for chemicals, apparatus, etc.

The proportional amount of work done for the various Departments is approximately as follows:- Health 50%, Police 40% (increasing) and Board of Works and Water Department 10%.

Since the outbreak of the war Mr. Vance has lost his Assistant, and the amount of work which has consequently devolved upon him has necessitated his working at nights, on Saturday afternoons, on Public Holidays and also on Sundays. This has been rendered especially necessary by the amount of

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Police work, reports on which are required at an early date.

I enclose reports for the past three months, which will show you the character of the work done.

With regard to the Police work I would point out that a revenue is produced from fines in cases where it would not be possible to obtain a conviction were it not for the reports of the City Analyst.

I would recommend that the Board of Police Commissioners increase their quota of the expenses by \$50 a month, raising Mr. Vance's salary by that amount, and that Mr. Vance be requested to carry on the work as long as his health will permit, as I consider it impossible at the present time to obtain a really good and efficient assistant.

I think your Board should know that Mr. Vance has recently had several very good offers, from a remunerative point of view - for example - he is offered the position of Chief Director of Laboratories in the City of Chicago at a salary of \$275 a month on a sliding scale. I merely mention this to show that a man should be paid a reasonable remuneration for his undoubted skill and knowledge.

I am of the opinion that the City would sustain a very serious loss if Mr. Vance were to leave. For although other Analytical Chemists could be found, each good in his own particular line, it would be very difficult to obtain one with

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the varied knowledge that Mr. Vance possesses at the present time.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) F. T. Underhill,
Medical Health Officer.