



CITY OF VANCOUVER

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
CITY ANALYST'S OFFICE

236 CORDOVA ST. EAST
VANCOUVER, B.C.

February 19, 1938.

Col. W. W. Foster,
Chief Constable,
Police Station,
Vancouver, B. C.

Sir:

I beg to submit herewith progress report on the activities of the Bureau of Science Training School which opened on February 3rd, 1938. Officers attending were:

February 3rd, 1938	Inspector Grant
	Inspector Pettit
February 9th, 1938	Staff Inspector McKay
	Staff Inspector Tuley
February 10th, 1938	Inspector Munro
	Inspector Lowrie
February 11th, 1938	Inspector Tuning
	Inspector Hann

All officers showed deep interest in the instruction and demonstrations and a keen desire to learn. The numerous questions asked showed that the instruction was being received in an intelligent manner. All expressed gratitude that they were permitted to attend such classes. The information so received is being conveyed by the Inspectors to their various reliefs.

All of the above mentioned officers received elementary instruction in the following subjects:

Handling of exhibits in rape cases. Identification of spermatazoa, semen, showing why careless and improper handling of exhibits destroys evidence.

Demonstrations and lectures on the comparison microscope, showing the comparison of two bullets fired from the same gun (fatal bullet and test bullet), showing magnification of lands and grooves, scratches and other defects on bullets imprinted from the barrel of gun; proper methods of identifying and caring for bullets; how soft lead bullets are easily scratched by careless and improper handling, thus destroying the evidence; identification of cartridge cases, powder on base of bullets and in cartridge cases, powder and splintered lead on clothing; explanation on tests of powder on hands of persons firing revolvers.

Description and demonstration with spectroscope.

Description of glass, its manufacture and identification.

Lecture and demonstration on the ultra-violet light, showing plain papers and envelopes with no writing upon them visible in natural light, but under the ultra-violet light the secret writing stands out clear and distinct. Cloth in natural light appears just ordinary cloth, but under the ultra-violet light invisible colors and cloth structure are immediately apparent.

Principle and use of the magnascope were explained.

Instruction so far has been in the use of the equipment in the Laboratory and what is possible with apparently valueless exhibits; how small particles of dust, hair, thread, cloth, paper, blood, etc. become most valuable evidence.

Col. W. W. Foster

3

February 19, 1938.

Future instruction will include elementary chemistry, elementary toxicology, minerology, soils, foot impressions, elementary examination of blood, narcotic drugs, writing, cloth, etc.

Classes will resume on Wednesday, February 23rd.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. C. B. Vance
City, Provincial & Dominion Analyst
Inspector in Charge of Police Bureau
of Science.

JV:AC