

F. T. UNDERHILL

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

(H. D. 14)

PHONE SEYMOUR 3270



Health Department

CITY HALL

VANCOUVER, B.C. February 27th, 1920

John F.C.B. Vance, Esq  
City Analyst,  
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Mr. Vance;-

In response to your request as to my opinion of your capabilities as an Analyst and Chemist, it gives me very great pleasure to state that I hold the highest opinion of your attainments. As you state, you have filled the position of Chief Analyst to this City for almost thirteen years, joining the Department on May 1st. 1907. Both the quantity and variety of the work you have had to perform far exceed anything that the ordinary Analyst is called upon to do, including as it does the analysis of all foodstuffs, poisons and drugs of all descriptions, stomachs and contents and different parts of the Human body to determine the cause of death, identification of blood stains, bacteriological examinations of milk and water, examination of sewerage matter, cement, coal, oils, asphalt etc, and examinations and experiments for the different civic departments. In addition you are frequently required to give evidence as to the results of your analyses before the Coroner, the Police Magistrates and the Supreme Court Judges when the



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- 2 -

case is sent to a higher court. From personal knowledge I may say that the cross-examination before the different courts is at times very severe, requiring a thorough knowledge of practical and theoretical chemistry, microscopic and spectrum analysis.

Your record is that of never having had your analyses upset by any court.

I have always found you hard-working, painstaking and courteous, and you have always handled the affairs of the Laboratory with credit to yourself and to the City.

Yours faithfully,

*F. T. Underhill*  
Medical Health Officer.

