

formaline or other disinfectant should be mixed with articles for analysis. Wide-mouthed half-gallon bottles, with glass stoppers, fitting tight with rings of cork, are usually obtainable, and are perhaps best suited for sending samples in. (Those with metal lids are not liquid-tight, and are liable to contaminate the contents with tin, etc.) Glass fruit-jars may also be used for the purpose.

6. *Containers should be Washed.*—The person packing the viscera should be prepared to state that all vessels enclosing the samples were washed out immediately before the samples were placed in them for shipment.

7. *Sealing.*—All vessels containing samples for analysis must be sealed in such a way that they cannot be opened without breaking the seal. A copy of the seal may be sent to the analyst for comparison in aiding identification before the Courts, but in every case the wrapper should be marked and signed in such a way that the person who sent the sealed package may be able afterwards to positively identify the wrapper, and if this and the sealing are properly done, the package may be sent by express.

8. When these matters are not carefully attended to there is the possibility of some of the contents being removed or tampered with or others substituted during the transit, and then the evidence of the analyst at a trial will be useless for want of strict proof of the identity of what he examined with the articles packed up by the coroner.

(Sgd.) GEORGE PATTERSON,
Deputy Attorney-General.

This circular from the Department of the Attorney-General for Manitoba is given in full, as various parts of it may be of general use to coroners elsewhere than in Manitoba. It should be read by coroners and medical witnesses in connection with what is stated on pages 353 to 376 of the main work, 4th edition.