
CHAPTER 192

THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST'S CERTIFICATE ACT

Arrangement of Sections

Section

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GOVERNMENT CHEMIST'S CERTIFICATE

(15th April, 1908.)

8/1908.
32/1956.

1. This Act may be cited as the Government Chemist's Certificate Act. **Short title.**

2. In this Act— **Interpretation.**

“government chemist” means the analytical and agricultural chemist or the assistant chemist of Antigua and Barbuda.

3. At any preliminary investigation held by a Magistrate into the facts which constitute an indictable offence, and which may necessitate the sending on of an accused person for trial, such Magistrate may, for the purpose of determining whether he shall dismiss the charge or send on the accused person for trial, accept at that stage the **Certificate *primâ facie* evidence at preliminary investigation.**

certificate of the government chemist purporting to be signed by him as such, as *prima facie* evidence of the matters therein contained, if it is otherwise proved that the bottle or other vessel containing the food, viscera, or other matter or thing analysed, and in respect of which the said certificate is given, had its seals, or other fastenings uninjured, at the time the same was delivered to the said chemist:

Provided that, if such accused person shall require that the government chemist shall attend such preliminary enquiry, the police and presiding Magistrate shall take the necessary steps to procure his attendance:

Provided that such certificate shall not be received as evidence at the trial of any accused person, and that at such trial, if the evidence of the government chemist is considered necessary he shall attend in the same way as any other witness.

Coroner's
inquest.

4. At any Coroner's inquest the Coroner may accept as *prima facie* evidence of the matters contained, the certificate of the government chemist, if the same purports to be signed by such government chemist.
