

FREDERICK BANTING



found that the dog developed diabetes. Banting concluded that a pancreas must produce something that prevents the disease. The something was insulin, and he and Best identified and isolated it. Four months later they had enough to inject a dying boy and save his life. Dr. Banting and the head of his department, J. J. R. Macleod, received the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1923. Banting telegraphed the organizer of a Boston medical convention, "At any meeting or dinner please read the following: I ascribe to Best equal share in the discovery. Hurt that he is not so acknowledged by Nobel trustees. Will share with him." Banting lived a long and useful life of research, dying after a plane crash in Newfoundland during World War II.

Dr. Frederick Banting, fresh from World War I, with his associate, Charles Best, a medical student, spent the summer of 1921 in a borrowed lab at the University of Toronto working with dogs. Years before, another researcher had removed a dog's pancreas and

A Little Knowledge

"I sometimes wonder if we are helped by too full a knowledge of medical literature. I must frankly confess that had I read all that was written on diabetes and known all of the conflicting views and theories, I would probably never have tackled the problem."

Frederick Banting

Bees

Some Canadian bees produce honey, and some produce barns or barrooms or clean up picnic grounds. The non-honey bee was a popular form of nineteenth century entertainment. Farmers gathered their neighbours together, fed them vast amounts of simple but tasty food and encouraged them to build a big, basic barn or to clear a field of timber between sunup and sundown. Jack Deighton, a British sailor who settled in Vancouver, held a party for thirsty pioneers, fed them simple but tasty booze and got them to build him a barroom. Barn and barroom raisings have faded away, but bees are still held in Alberta and Saskatchewan for community jobs of construction and cleaning up.

Informal

"No one has ever had an idea in a dress suit."

Frederick Banting

Stamps

The first Canadian Postage Stamp, the three-pence Beaver, was designed in 1851 by Sandford Fleming and reissued in 1951. It shows a beaver building a dam. The book value of an 1851 issue in mint condition is \$8,500; that of the 1951 issue, only \$1.50.



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