F.G.B.

REMEMBRANCE

FROM

W. N. and V. C. HAWORTH

Daily Telegraph
26 Feb. 1941

SIR F. BANTING'S MISSION

COMBATING GAS

From Our Own Correspondent
ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland, Tuesday.

The bodies of Sir Frederick Banting, discoverer of insulin, who has been engaged on special medical research, and two others killed in an air crash on Friday were brought to Musgrave Harbour this morning by sledge.

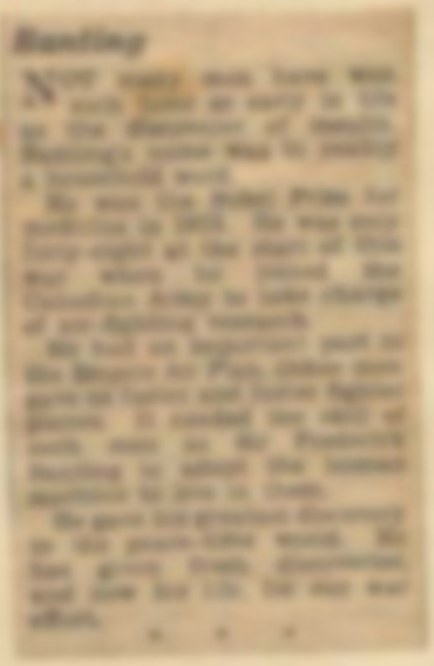
It is reported, but not confirmed, that the plane was some distance on its way to England. It was forced to turn back because of engine trouble, and lost its bearings in a snowstorm. It flew blindly for several hours, searching for an airport and crashed from a great height.

There is considerable speculation on the reason for Sir Frederick Banting's journey to England. The Canadian Premier, Mr. Mackenzie King, told the House of Commons last night that Sir Frederick was "proceeding to Britain on a mission of high national and scientific importance."

Reports have circulated that Sir Frederick was going to England to explain a new method of combating poison gas attacks.

Dean C. J. Mackenzie, acting president of the National Research Council, said: "Sir Frederick Banting was insistent on getting to the United Kingdom in time to bring the people things he had learned in Canada and the United States."

Daily Express
26 Feb. 1941



Sunday Times
2 Mar. 1941

Manchester Daily Sketch
26 Feb. 1941

THE TIMES

25 Feb 1941.

SIR FREDERICK BANTING

THE DISCOVERY OF INSULIN

Tit Bits
29 Mar. 1941

He Saved Thousands of Lives

Manchester Guardian
25 Feb. 1941.

SIR FREDERICK BANTING

SIR F. BANTING

Doctor Who Found Insulin

Daily Telegraph
25 Feb. 1941

SIR F. BANTING KILLED

MISSING 'PLANE LOCATED

All the occupants of a 'plane which had been missing since Friday, and which had Sir Frederick Banting, co-discoverer of Insulin, on board, are dead except the pilot, Capt. Joseph Mackey.

This was announced in the Canadian House of Commons last night by Mr. Ralston, the Defence Minister, according to B.U.P.

The 'plane was found at the north end of Trinity Bay, near St. John's, Newfoundland.

Others aboard the 'plane, in addition to Sir Frederick and Capt. Mackey, were an Englishman, William Bird, of Kidderminster, the navigator, and William Snailham, of Bedford, Nova Scotia.

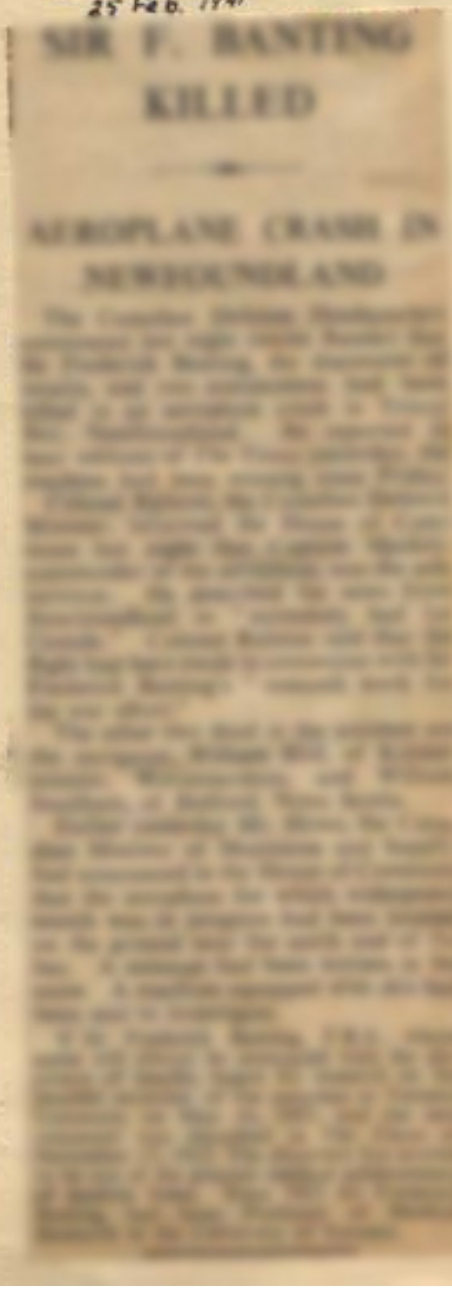
'Planes fitted with skis have left Ottawa to bring back Capt. Mackey and the bodies of the three victims.

AIR SICKNESS RESEARCH

Sir Frederick Banting, a major in the Canadian Army Medical Corps, had been travelling extensively through Canada gathering data about air-sickness and reactions on the optic nerves resulting from power dives.

Born 50 years ago at Alliston, Ontario, Sir Frederick had gained many honours in Canada and Britain for his work on the treatment of diabetes. He shared with his associates, Prof. Macleod and Prof. Charles H. Best, the Nobel Prize awarded in recognition of their discovery of Insulin.

Daily ~~News~~ Times
25 Feb. 1941



SIR F. BANTING
KILLED

AEROPLANE CRASH IN
NEWFOUNDLAND

Manchester Guardian

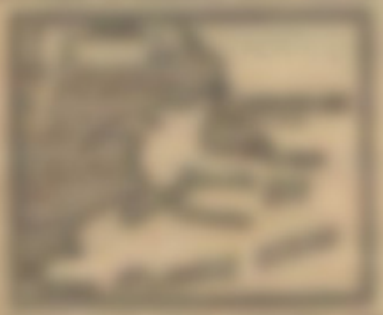
25 Feb. 1941.

SIR F. BANTING DEAD

Missing 'Plane Found

PILOT THE ONLY SURVIVOR

Discoverer of Insulin



The Woman Behind Him

The Glasgow Herald
6 Mar. 1941

HIS MAN SAVED MILLIONS OF LIVES

Sir Frederick Banting

The 'News Chronicle' – 25 Feb. 1941.

Listener
6 Mar 1941

Nursing Times
1 Mar 1941

THE MAN WHO KEPT MILLIONS ALIVE

THE EVENING CITIZEN,
(GLASGOW)

Montrose Standard
21 Mar. 1941

Sir Frederick Banting

AN APPRECIATION.

by ED. CLARK
44 MURRAY STREET,
MONTROSE.

The Glasgow
Evening Citizen

· Continued

Chemical Trade Journal
28 Feb. 1941

Sheffield Standard
24 Feb. 1941

Scientist & Plane Located

Scientist Killed In Air Crash

Rescuers Reach Sir R. Bentley's Plane

The Evening News
(London)
25 Feb. 1941.

Edinburgh Evening News
25 Feb. 1941

Killed in 'Plane Crash

FAMOUS SCIENTIST WAS ON WAY HERE

Sir Frederick Banting, the famous Canadian scientist, who has been killed in an air crash in Trinity Bay, Newfoundland, was "proceeding to Britain on a mission of high national and scientific importance" at the time of his death.

This was revealed at Ottawa last night by Mr Mackenzie King, the Canadian Prime Minister, after Colonel J. L. Ralston, Minister of Defence, had broken the news of the tragedy to a hushed House of Commons, and had described it as "extremely bad for Canada." Colonel Ralston said the flight was being made in connection with Sir Frederick's research work for the war effort.

Two other occupants of the 'plane—Navigator William Bird, of Kidderminster, England, and William Snailham, of Bedford, Nova Scotia—lost their lives. Captain Mackey, commander of the aircraft, was the sole survivor. Widespread search had been made for the 'plane, which had been missing since Friday. A message written in the snow helped to locate the wrecked aircraft on the ground near the north end of the bay, and 'planes fitted with skis were sent to the rescue. Captain Mackey was injured, but not seriously.

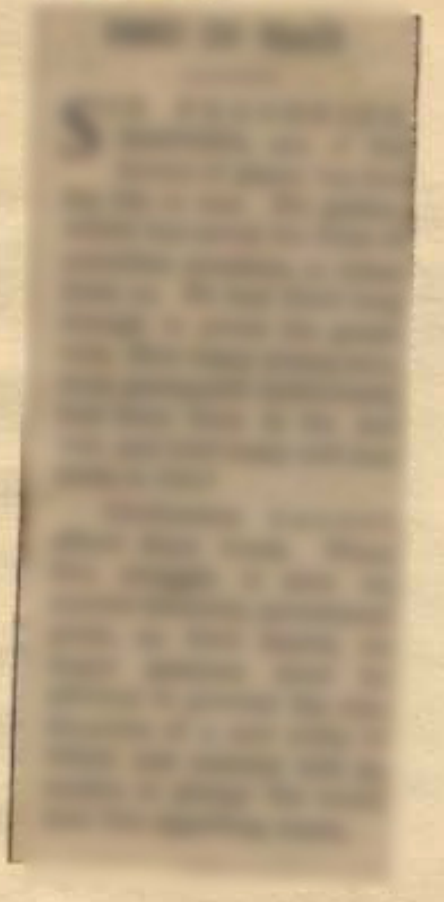
HIS INSULIN TRIUMPH

Sir Frederick's greatest contribution to medical science was his discovery of the insulin treatment of diabetes, in collaboration with Dr J. J. R. Macleod and Dr C. H. Best, of the University of Toronto, for which he was honoured in many lands. In 1923 he was awarded, with Dr Macleod, the Nobel Prize for Medicine, and he was created K.B.E. in the King's Birthday Honours in 1934.

Medical men in many countries hailed the young Canadian's discovery of the insulin treatment as the greatest since those of Pasteur. The Canadian Government granted him an annuity of £1500 to enable him to pursue his researches. Dr Banting thought it an injustice that the Nobel Prize Committee failed to give recognition to Dr Best, and declared at once that he would share with that scientist his own half of the prize, which amounted to £1120.

One of his first concerns was to ensure means of establishing a medical research foundation through which he could carry on his work. The endowment for the institution which later bore his name was begun by donations of patients who had benefited from insulin treatment, their gifts amounting to £4400.

Manchester Evening News
25 Feb. 1941



Lancet
1 Mar. 1941

THE DISCOVERER OF INSULIN

Sir Frederick Banting, F.R.S., lost his life when the aeroplane in which he was pursuing his research work crashed in Trinity Bay, Newfoundland. So ends nobly a meteoric career of great service to suffering humanity. The discovery of insulin in 1922 was not an isolated brain-wave, but the painstaking push to a successful issue of a train of thought started thirty years before by Minkowski and Mering when they showed that the pancreas must have an internal secretion dealing with sugar in the blood as well as an external secretion dealing with foodstuffs in the gut. But this internal secretion of the islands of Langerhans eluded them as well as Schäfer who called it insulin without being able to isolate it. The dead pancreas continued to guard its secret although in 1908 Zuelzer and Scott extracted small quantities of an active substance which proved too toxic for human use. But Banting was not to be baulked by the failure of others from securing so glittering a prize. Macleod's department in Toronto had given him a new technique of estimating minute changes in the blood-sugar. Best's skill enabled him to block the external secretion in dogs and recover from the still intact islands an extract which cured experimentally diabetic dogs. Armed with this confidence Banting and Best quickly verified the suspicion that the insulin was there in the dead pancreas all right and could be extracted with alcohol before its destruction by ferments. And finally Collip purified the extract from its toxic constituents so that it could safely be given to patients. It all seems so simple now—the relentless pursuit of truth to its logical conclusion. Banting deserves his place in the long gallery of those who have found a remedy for disease; he is one of that smaller band who found a talisman which may open other doors.

Banting Jumped In Parachute

The Mirror
(London)

BANTING—DYING—WAS DOCTOR TO THE END

Birmingham Evening Despatch
24 Feb. 1941

DISCOVERER OF INSULIN IN LOST PLANE

Kidderminster man with him

SIR FREDERICK BANTING, the discoverer of insulin, is missing, it was announced to-day in Montreal. He was in a military aeroplane which has not been heard of since Friday last.

Flying with him were Captain Joseph Creighton Mackie, of Kansas City, an English navigator named William Bird, and a man named William Snailham, of Bedford, Nova Scotia.

Bird is stated to be a native of Kidderminster.

Search for the missing plane and its occupants is believed to be concentrated in the Newfoundland area, says British United Press.

"The plane was being delivered by a civilian organisation," the Montreal announcement adds.

SIR FREDERICK BANTING

Aiding airmen

Sir Frederick, who is a major in the Canadian Army Medical Corps, is in charge of medical research in connection with air fighting.

He has been travelling about Canada consulting and advising on ways and means of preventing air-sickness and black-out at the end of a power dive.

He was born 50 years ago at Alliston, Ontario, and his many honours include the Nobel Prize for Medicine for 1923.

He threw up his research work to enlist at the outbreak of war, and came to England as a Captain in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in 1939.

In the last war he served in Canada, England and France from 1915 to 1919, was wounded at Cambrai and won the M.C.

After the war he practised medicine in Toronto and London, Ontario, until 1921, when he began his research on the internal secretion of the pancreas at Toronto University.

He had been professor of medical research there since 1923.

*** * Insulin, a secretion of the * pancreas, controls the rate of supply of blood sugar in the body. Hence its value in cases of diabetes.**

Evening News
24. Feb. 1941

Sir Frederick Banting—on a visit to London in December, 1939.

SIR F. BANTING MISSING IN PLANE

MAN WHO DISCOVERED INSULIN CURE

Sir Frederick Banting, the Canadian scientist, who, according to a Reuter report from Montreal, is missing in a military aeroplane, is famous as the discoverer of the use of insulin to alleviate diabetes.

He was engaged in medical research in Canada when the war broke out but left to join the Canadian Army. He came to Britain at the end of 1939.

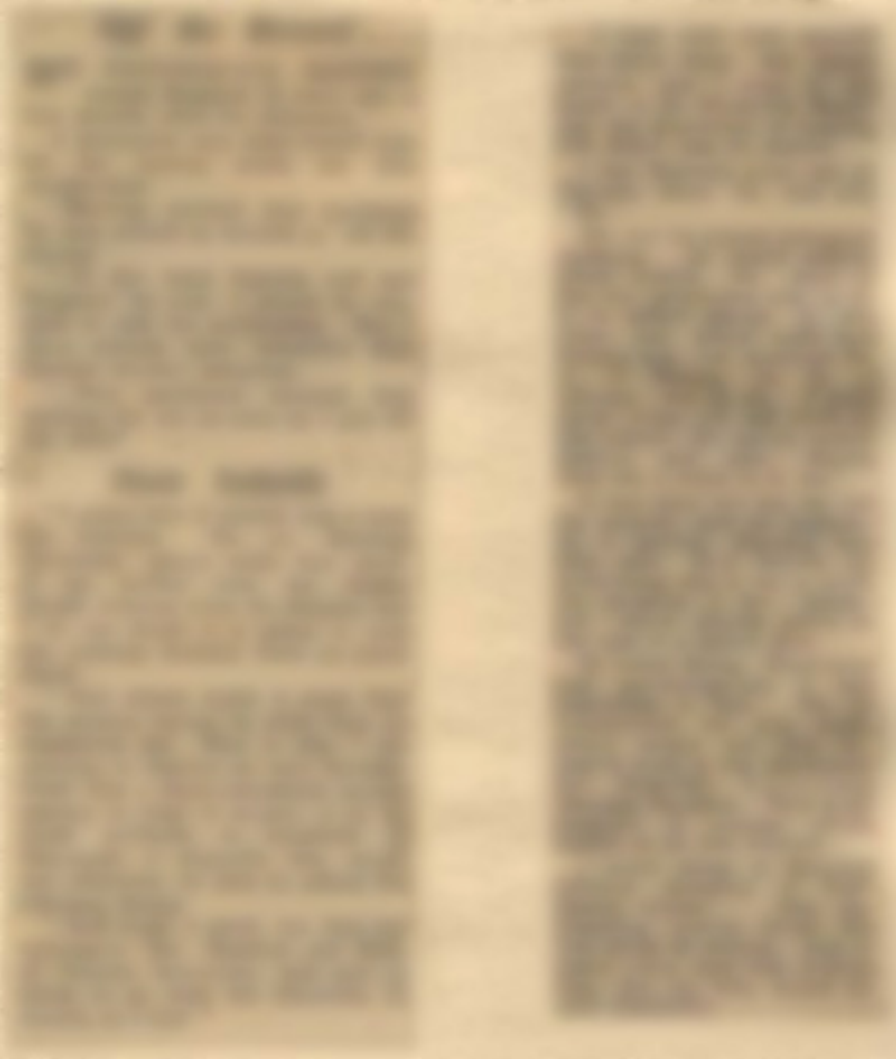
On Research Job

Shortly afterwards he was appointed director of a great Canadian military hospital in England.

A few months ago he was given an important research task as a member of the technical and scientific development committee in Ottawa.

The message from Montreal stated that with Sir Frederick in the plane, which has been missing since Friday, were Capt. Joseph Creighton Mackie, of Kansas City, Wm. Snailham, of Bedford, Novia Scotia, and Wm. Bird, the English navigator, of Kidderminster, Worcestershire.

The Evening Standard
(London)
Feb 26, 1941.



The Times, London
26. Feb. 1941

[redacted]

Edinburgh Evening News
26 Feb. 1941

SCIENTIST'S FATE

HE LIVED FOR HOURS AFTER JUMP FROM 'PLANE

Sir Frederick Banting, the "discoverer" of insulin and Nobel prize-winner, was not killed when the 'plane in which he was travelling crashed on the Newfoundland coast, it was learned in St John's, Newfoundland, to-day. He made a parachute jump before the crash, but died hours later from injuries, exhaustion, and exposure.

The 'plane was flying out to sea when it developed engine trouble, and the pilot, Captain J. C. Mackey, of Kansas City, turned back. While flying at 1000 feet, the engines failed, and Captain Mackey gave the order to bale out. Captain Mackey and Sir Frederick cleared the 'plane, but the other occupants—William Bird, of Kidderminster, the navigator, and William Snailham, of Bedford, Nova Scotia—did not jump and were killed when the 'plane crashed into a snowbank near Goose Bay, a small fishing village on Bonavista Bay.

DIED IN A COMA

The crash took place late on Thursday night. Sir Frederick was seriously injured, and the pilot, who landed some distance away from him and was dazed and helpless could not find him for several hours. Sir Frederick died on Friday in a coma. Captain Mackey was thus the only survivor.

Sir Frederick's body will be flown to Toronto, where a military funeral will be held if Lady Banting desires.

The famous Canadian scientist was on his way to Britain on an important mission when he was killed, Mr Mackenzie King, the Canadian Prime Minister, revealed yesterday. Commenting on his death, Mr C. J. Mackenzie, Acting President of the National Research Council in Ottawa, said: "The story cannot be told now, but it will make a great story after the war. The work Sir Frederick was doing was as great as the discovery of insulin. He was on his way to Britain to consult with aviation and medical authorities."—B.U.P.

Banting

NOT many men have won such fame so early in life as the discoverer of insulin. Banting's name was in reality a household word.

He won the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1923. He was only forty-eight at the start of this war when he joined the Canadian Army to take charge of air-fighting research.

He had an important part in the Empire Air Plan. Other men gave us faster and faster fighter planes. It needed the skill of such men as Sir Frederick Banting to adapt the human machine to live in them.

He gave his greatest discovery to the peace-time world. He has given fresh discoveries, and now his life, for our war effort.

F.R.C.S. and Hon. F.R.C.S.

THE tragic death of Sir Frederick Banting has occurred just 20 years after, as an obscure worker in the Toronto Medical School, he had the "hunch" which led to the discovery of insulin.

This happened during a sleepless night. He jumped out of bed and made the cryptic note, "Ligate pancreatic ducts of dogs."

To-day there are tens of thousands of diabetics who owe their being alive and well to the discovery that made the grim-faced young Canadian doctor famous. At 32 he was the youngest man ever awarded the Nobel Prize. He was also the only member of our own Royal College of Surgeons to be made an Hon. Fellow of that body.

The Canadian Government did a fine thing in settling on Banting an annuity of £1,500 a year to enable him to pursue his researches.

One of the first successes of the insulin treatment was Miss Constance Collier. When she began to receive it she was at death's door. At that time she weighed only six stone.

Burial Of Sir F. Banting

TORONTO, Wednesday.—The remains of Sir Frederick Banting, the Canadian scientist, recently killed in an air crash in Newfoundland, were carried through the streets here yesterday on a caisson draped with a Union Jack and drawn by an armoured car.

Two hundred soldiers escorted the funeral cortege, and three volleys were fired over the grave.

Sir Frederick probably lived for 18 hours after the crash, said Mr Fred Tees, a surgeon, after a conversation in Montreal with the pilot of the airplane, Captain Mackey, who was the sole survivor.—Reuter.

Brave Obstinacy

When Sir Frederick Banting was born in Canada he inherited three great things—obstinacy, curiosity, and physical strength. In the last war, fighting with the Canadians, he refused to let them amputate his wounded arm. That was typical of him in everything. Not long after his return to Canada he began his research which was to result in the discovery of insulin. He fought against indifference, he financed on a shoe-string, he borrowed and pawned to keep going, and in rough surroundings with the dogs he was using for experiments he gave to humanity one of the most merciful discoveries of all time.

Now he is dead, killed in a plane that was to bring him to London. The sadness and waste of his passing are grievous, but his immortality will be in the generations yet unborn who will bless his name.

Bournemouth
Daily Echo
26 Feb. 1941

[redacted]

Daily Telegraph
London
28 Feb. 1941

Economy Lunch

WHEN Governors and subscribers of King's College Hospital met at the Waldorf Hotel yesterday for the annual court of the Corporation they had a surprise. The tables were set as if for an orthodox lunch. Instead of the usual courses, however, only sausage rolls, pastries and coffee were served.

Dr. Goebbels would be glad to claim this as a victory for the U-boat, especially as Lord Chatfield was speaking on "The War at Sea."

In fact it was the hospital's idea of an economy lunch. Even the cocktail bar was deserted—except for two stalwarts.

Sir Frederick Banting's death gave a special interest to one item in the report. King's is the first London hospital to have a diabetic department operating as a complete, independent unit.

THE TIMES

Feb. 26
to
March 6
1941.

CANADIAN PARADE AT SIR FREDERICK BANTING'S MEMORIAL SERVICE

at St. Martin's, London, last week.

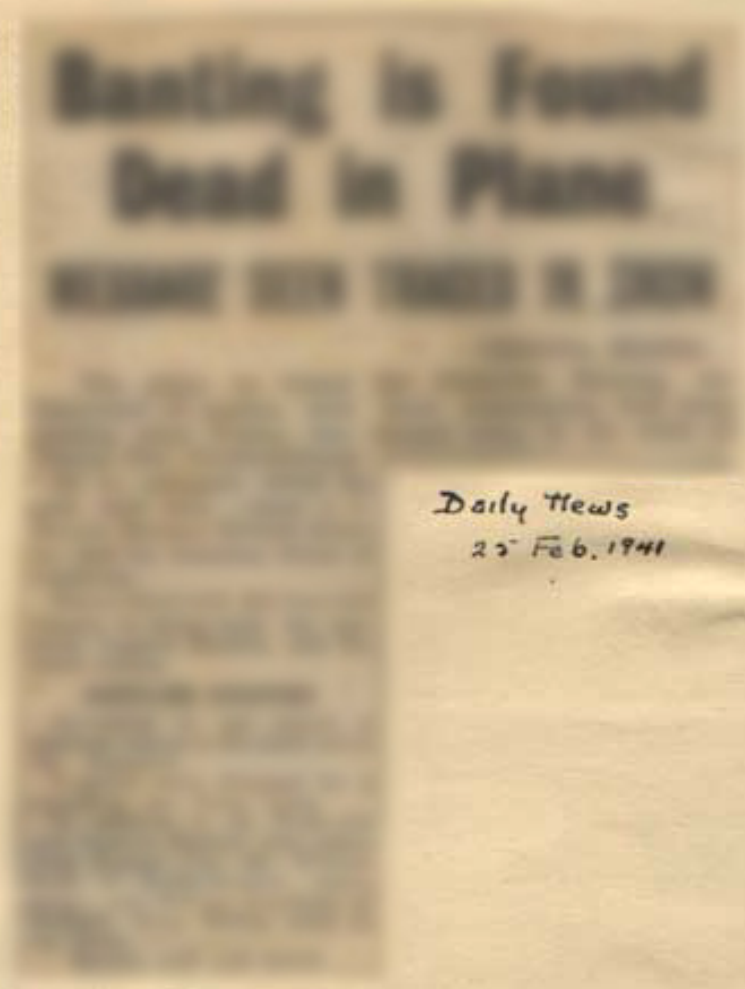
Matron-in-Chief (Miss E. F. Pense, R.R.C.), left, and Matron No. 5 Hospital (Miss C. Lunn)

Canadian nursing sisters arriving at the Church.

Matron of No. 15 Canadian Hospital (Miss Neill) and two Canadian sisters.

Miss G. Lunn (left) matron of Canadian Military Hospital No. 5 in England, and a Canadian nursing sister arriving at St. Martin's in the Fields, for the memorial service to the late Sir Frederick Banting

Nursing Times
15 Mar. 1941



Boeting is Found Dead in Plane

Daily News
25 Feb. 1941

A LOSS TO SCIENCE.

THE death of Sir Frederick Banting, which is reported to have taken place as the result of the crash of an aeroplane in Newfoundland, is a grave loss to Canada, of which he was a distinguished son, and in a wider sense to the realm of science as applied to the relief of human suffering. Sir Frederick was one of three Canadian medical men who devoted themselves to strenuous research in the attempt to discover a remedy for diabetes, a scourge which is afflicting many people in modern days. His name will always be associated with the discovery of insulin treatment, which has greatly ameliorated the condition of many of those suffering from the disease and prolonged their lives. In Parliament to-day, as well as in business and professional life, many men are carrying on useful and important work thanks to the benefits received from this treatment. Many honours were bestowed upon Sir Frederick in recognition of his valuable work, which has scarcely any parallel since the days of Pasteur, and it was universally agreed that they were well merited. The Nobel Prize for achievements in medicine, for example, was awarded to Sir Frederick Banting and his collaborator, Dr. J. R. Macleod, in 1923. The name of Banting was known to former generations principally in connection with a dietary system for those threatened with corpulency, which was associated with a medical practitioner, Dr. William Banting, but it has now acquired much greater lustre in a different application.

Belfast Telegraph
25 Feb. 1941

Sir Frederick Banting, who had served in France during the previous war, being wounded in the fighting at Cambrai, had placed his services at the disposal of his country during the present conflict, and was engaged in research work for the purpose of furthering the national war effort. He was a member of a committee formed at Ottawa for special research in aeronautics, and he met his death when along with three others he was engaged in a flight in connection with his investigations. He, no doubt, recognised the vital importance of the part which the Air Forces of Britain and the Dominions have to play in securing the final victory. His career has been cut short by an unfortunate and tragic accident at an age when he might have reasonably expected many years of further activity and possibly additional progress in connection with the "art of healing" to which he had made so notable a contribution. Dying as he did when practically engaged in the service of his country, his name deserves to be held in special honour. We can only hope that others will come forward to carry on the work which he began in adverse circumstances and brought forward to a brilliant and memorable success.