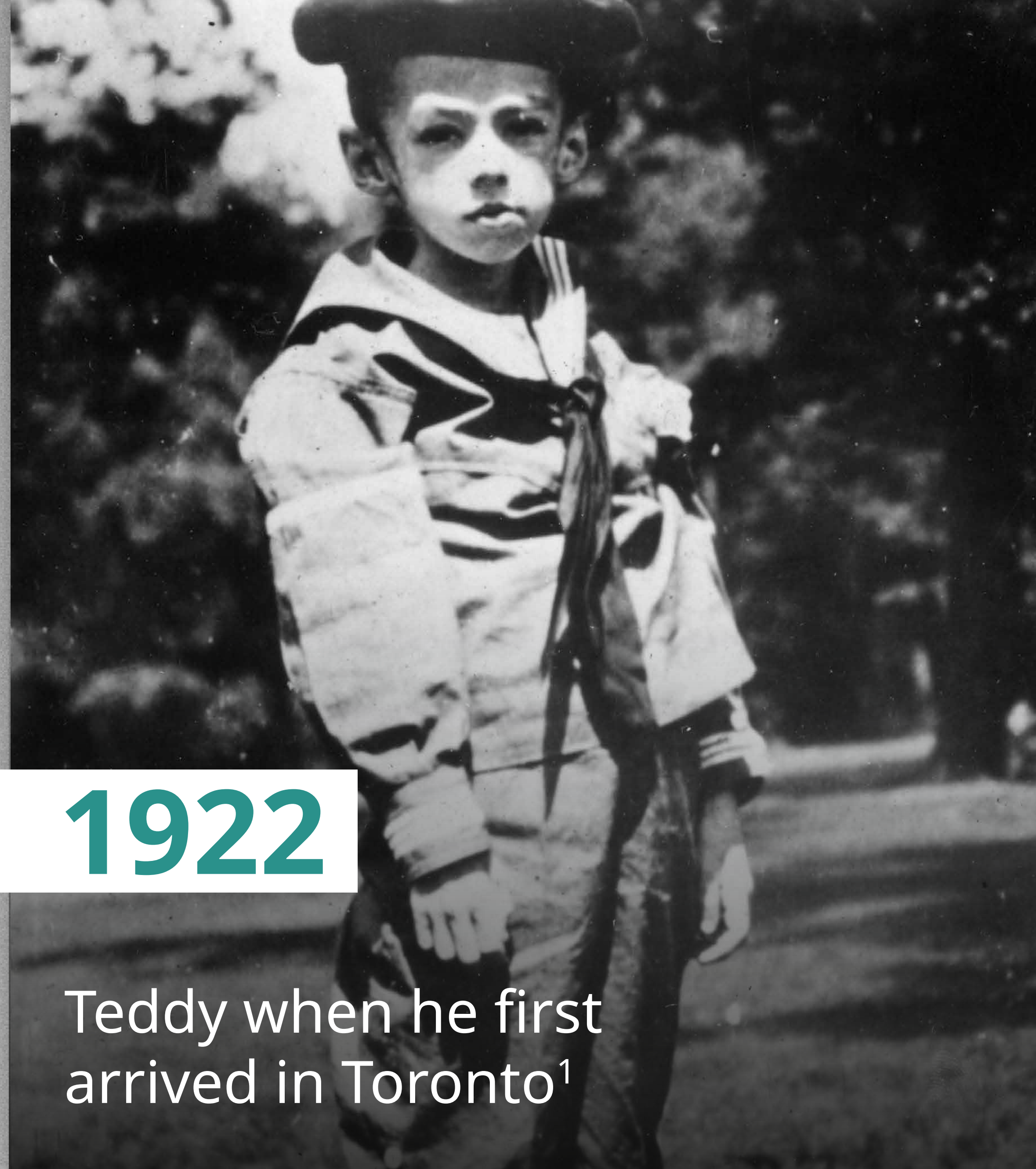


# Theodore (Teddy) Ryder

1916–1993



1922

Teddy when he first arrived in Toronto<sup>1</sup>

Teddy began showing symptoms of diabetes at the age of four. His mother, Mrs Mildred Ryder, determined to find help for Teddy, went from doctor to doctor until she found Dr Frederick Allen, a researcher in diabetes. Dr Allen put Teddy on a strict diet, telling the family “the less food, the more life”. By the end of 1921, Teddy was malnourished and extremely thin, weighing only 12 kilograms (27 pounds)<sup>1</sup>.

**“They told us flatly he could only live two years or maybe not that long.”**

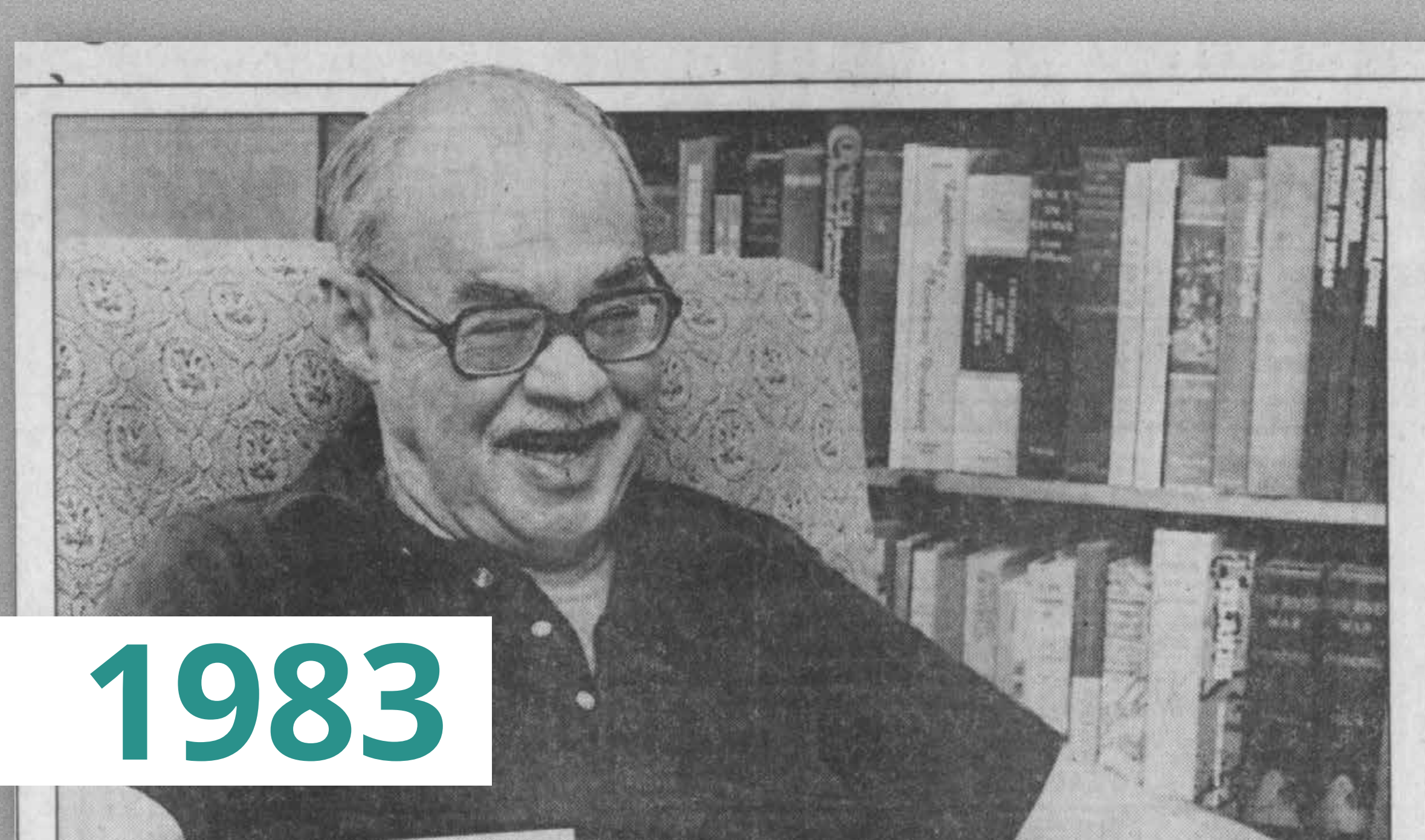
Mildred Ryder



1923

Teddy one year after treatment<sup>1</sup>

In July 1922, Teddy and his mother travelled to Toronto to meet Dr Frederick Banting, who started Teddy on insulin injection therapy. He would be given between three and four injections a day. The change in Teddy over the next few months was notable. By January 1923, when Dr Banting addressed medical practitioners in New Jersey, Teddy was described as “a chubby boy”.<sup>1</sup>



1983

**Teddy Ryder: “Banting’s living miracle”<sup>1</sup>**

In 1983, the *Toronto Star* published an article entitled “Teddy Ryder: Banting’s living miracle”. Journalist Frank Jones had learned of Teddy Ryder’s whereabouts from his doctor. Frank, accompanied by Michael Bliss, interviewed Teddy Ryder and his mother in Hartford, Connecticut, for the article.

**Source:** Clipping from the *Toronto Star*, Sunday Edition, 1983<sup>1</sup>.

#### IMAGES:

University of Toronto Library. *Discovery and Early Development of Insulin* online collection.

Courtesy of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto.

#### REFERENCES:

1. University of Toronto Libraries. *The Discovery and Early Development of Insulin. Teddy Ryder*. 2021. <https://insulin.library.utoronto.ca>. Accessed August 2021.