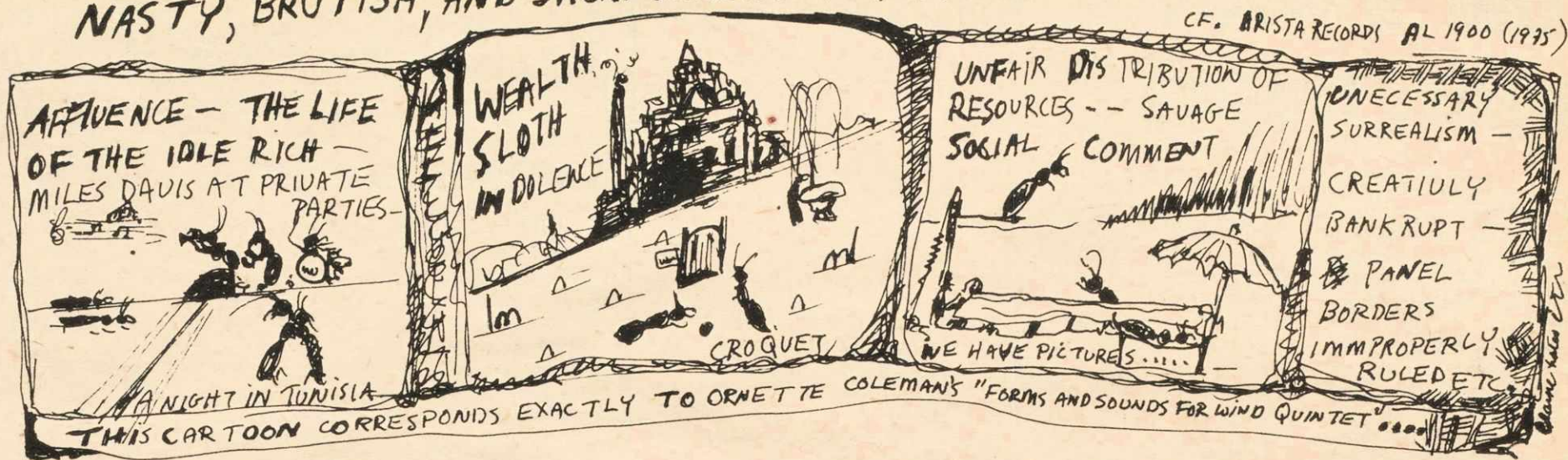


NASTY, BRUTISH, AND SHORT BY TOM OZERE .



Med School needs more money for cancer research

by Alice LeDuc

Even though big things have been happening in the last six months in the field of cancer research at Dalhousie Medical School, the prospects of the University becoming a major research centre are dim, says Dr. D. Howard Dickson, Chairman of the School's Research Committee.

"One of the main problems bio-medical research is now facing and will continue to face in the 1980s and 1990s is the declining number of clinical researchers," Dr. Dickson said, "and that is because of insufficient funds."

Researchers now find they must devote more time to teaching rather than research in order

to make a living, he said. Projected university cutbacks mean it will become more difficult to attract researchers.

Nonetheless, this year Dalhousie was able to recruit Dr. Robert Chambers, a world-class cancer researcher. Dr. Dickson said that is because of a special Terry Fox research fund, from which Dalhousie received a \$1-

million grant for cancer research and a \$150,000 grant to build a central tissue culture faculty.

Two of the cancer research programs taking place at Dalhousie involve the development of antibodies for tumor detection and the study of how chemical carcinogens -- cancer causing agents -- produce changes in the genetic material of the cell.

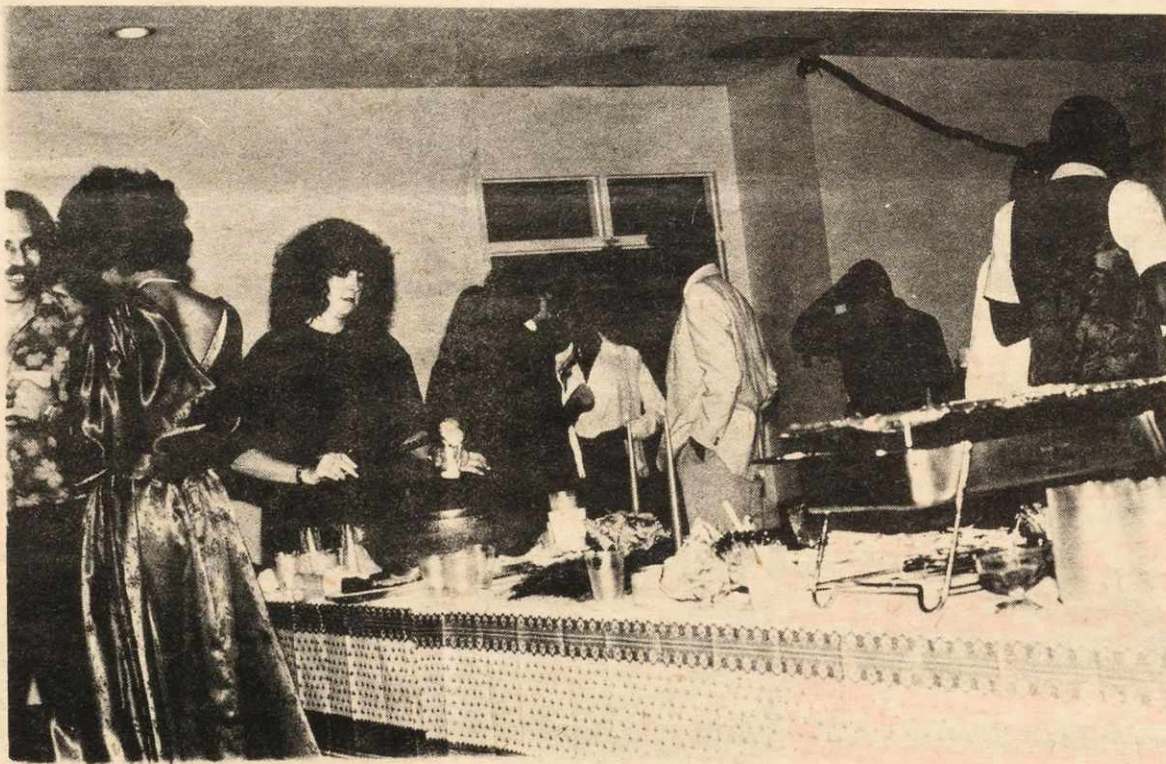
Other programs include research into breast cancer and interferon, an experimental drug which may be able to stop breast cancer, cancer of the ovaries and lymph system cancers. The anti-cancer drug is produced in small quantities and at high cost mainly from human white blood cells, cultures or tissue cell lines.

Money from the National Cancer Institute is low because

funds are spread over a number of programs such as clinical testing of drugs and care of cancer patients in hospital, Dr. Dickson said. Grants given to Dalhousie University by local societies are also small, he said.

Money raised by Fox is designated specifically for cancer research but does not necessarily stay in the local area. The National Cancer Institute allots funds to the best quality research areas and to places where they do the most good. That policy has helped Dalhousie, Dr. Dickson said.

About \$250,000 of the approximate \$1.1-million Nova Scotians gave to the Canadian Cancer Society last year can be attributed to Fox's run, said Alf Joergensen, Executive Director of the Nova Scotia Division of the Society.



The International Christmas Dinner filled the Green Room with festivity last Saturday.


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