

Civil disobedience a necessity—Bay

By GLORIA SKUBA

Civil disobedience is a permanent necessity of democracy, says the incoming head of the U of A Political Science Department.

Dr. Christian Bay spoke on Behavioral Science and Democracy Friday.

"Democracy is a means to other things and should not be considered as an end in itself," he said.

"It is a means to human rights and if I had to choose between human rights and democracy I would choose human rights."

"I do believe strongly in self-government because one of the human rights is the right to participate in government. This is also an important part of democracy," said Dr. Bay.

"A problem of U.S. democracy is that it is unrealistic in the sense the majority is unwilling to extend human rights to a permanent minority," he said.

Individual courts, such as the Supreme court, have done a great deal more for minorities than majority government bodies such as the legislature, said Dr. Bay, who was born in Oslo, Norway.

DEMOCRACY LIMITATION

"A major limitation of democracy is the better educated and affluent members have greater influence and get more privileges in government."

"The unorganized groups, such as the consumers tend to be given symbols whereas the large organized groups, such as the corporations

have more influence," said Dr. Bay.

Dr. Bay's major interest lies in the field of freedom. He has written a book called "Structure of Freedom" on which he based his lecture. It is published in paperback by Atheneum, New York.

Dr. Bay is replacing Professor Grant Davy, former head of the Political Science Department, who left last year and is now head of the Political Science Department at McMaster University.

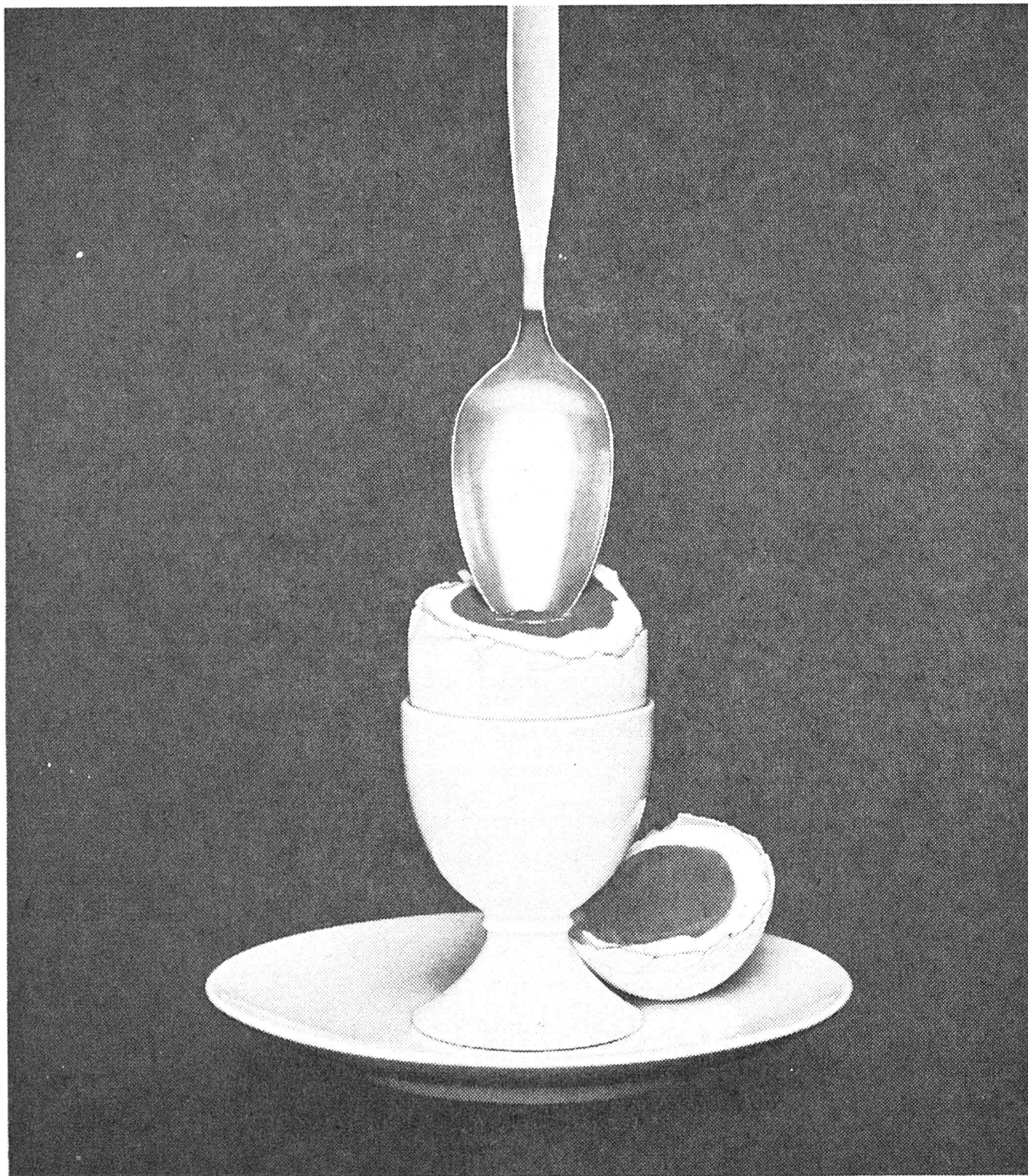
Dr. Bay will take over from Professor King Gordon who is acting head of the department this year.

Dr. Bay spent 15 years in California, teaching in the University of California in Berkeley. He is a research associate in Stanford University, working in the area of human problems and political science.



DR. CHRISTIAN BAY

... an interest in freedom



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