

FILM: THE DEMOCRATIC ART

By Garth Jowett
 Little, Brown, 1976
 518 pp. \$19.95
 L of C 75-32411
 ISBN 0-316-47370-7

Among "new forms of communication media," Jowett claims, film "did the most" to help transform the United States from a nation of isolated, farm-oriented communities into a relatively homogeneous urbanized society. His long, well-documented analysis contributes to the study of mass media (in contrast to more traditional models of historical causation) as spurs to social change. He gives scant attention to documentary or educational films. Hollywood as a force shaping the average American's expectations and willingness to alter his life, the make-up of movie audiences, the economics of the moving picture industry, attempts at private and public censorship of films—these are Jowett's meat. His book is more comprehensive than another with a similar theme, Robert Sklar's *Movie-Made America: A Social History of American Movies* (1975).

ALLENDE'S CHILE: The Political Economy of the Rise and Fall of the Unidad Popular

By Stefan De Vylder
 Cambridge, 1976
 251 pp. \$13.95
 L of C 72-27797
 ISBN 0-521-21046-1

Of these three books dealing variously with the recent Chilean experience, two focus exclusively on the turbulent Allende years, 1970-73. De Vylder, lecturer at the Stockholm School of Economics, describes the conflicts among factions of the ruling *Unidad Popular* coalition and evaluates Salvador Allende's neo-Marxist economic policy, finding in its errors and defeats an explanation for Chile's middle-class counter-revolution. Fact-laden and concise, De Vylder's study outdistances most of the essays in the uneven collection edited by O'Brien, a lecturer in economics at the University of Glasgow. The exception is Alex Nove's calm discussion of Allende's economics; the other essays are sociological in approach, Marxist in outlook, often didactic in tone. One is titled "Was the United States Responsible for the Chilean Coup?" (answer: no, the U.S. role was far less important than that of the domestic Right). California political scientist Loveman's portrayal of the long rural class struggle offers much new, original material on the history of Chile's problems of poverty and exploitation, which Allende sought in vain to solve.

ALLENDE'S CHILE

Edited by Philip O'Brien
 Praeger, 1976
 296 pp. \$20
 L of C 75-23987
 ISBN 0-275-55750-2

STRUGGLE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE: Politics and Rural Labor in Chile, 1919-1973

By Brian Loveman
 Ind. Univ., 1976
 251 pp. \$12.50
 L of C 74-6521
 ISBN 0-253-35565-6