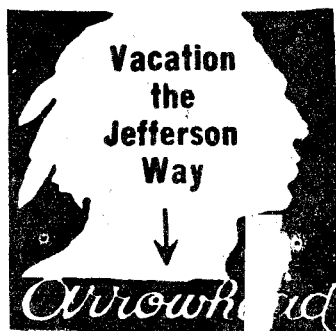


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to win them established reputations soon we might have expected to find Denis Devlin and Robert Lowell included.

Despite the omissions, however, Mr. Williams' anthology undoubtedly remains the best so far available, for it does afford a comprehensive introduction to a rich variety of the best poetry written in our times. It includes, besides, a section devoted to modern light verse and Mr. Williams' preface analyzing current practice in the poetic field. One might quarrel with some of his metaphysical reflections here; but in general, his account is fairly informative.

WALT McELROY.

Peasant Community

MALAY FISHERMEN: THEIR PEASANT ECONOMY, by Raymond Firth. Institute of Pacific Relations. \$4.50.

THIS book, which should be of great interest to economists and students of economics, is the result of a year's field research by two anthropologists. It describes the economy of a simple Malay peasant community in practice. This culture uses money and depends on the sale of most of its produce for its livelihood. There is a simple form of capital—savings invested in individually owned expensive fishing-gear. Nearly one-third of the fishermen make just enough for minimal subsistence, and even more own no major gear. However, the class lines are not sharp as work is cooperative, though on an individual basis; owners are themselves workers, payment is in division of proceeds rather than wages, and there is little difference in scale of living.

All this is described in fascinating detail, with technical graphs and charts, and also vivid accounts of individual bargaining transactions, case histories of capital accumulation, and so forth. Mr. Firth raises, but presents all too briefly, the question of the applicability of our own economic categories and the problems which may arise with increasing mechanization. He does, however, point out that the groundwork is such as to lead to a possible development of sharper class differentiation, with a native capitalist-managerial class. The book makes clear the value of anthropological techniques for understanding even the technical subject matter of other disciplines relating to simpler cultures.

MAY EDEL.

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WHEN CIO-PAC started the School of Political Action Techniques in Washington, D.C., in June, the response was so great that they expanded the idea to include key points throughout the country. Planned for the near future are the Midwest School in Chicago, September 4-7; schools in Columbia, Mo., September 7-8; Detroit, September 20-21; Boston, September 20-22; New Haven, September 27-28; San Francisco, September 27-29; and in New York for one day, October 6. Classes cover all phases of forthcoming election procedure and analysis of government functions. With absolutely no material to proceed from students participated in the writing of material which will be compiled and published as an illustrated manual.

The Civil Rights Congress of New York is circulating a signature petition protesting the Georgia lynchings. Stab the KKK with your fountain pen. . . . Stage For Action now has ten companies hard at work on election campaign scripts. . . . The progressive musical satire *Keynotes of Unity*, by Bob Adler and Elmer Bernstein, will open at the Fraternal Clubhouse, 110 W. 48th St., N. Y., on September 22. Born at Camp Unity, the material was tested throughout the season for audience reaction. On the strength of what they saw, the audiences became angels to an unfinished production by buying tickets in advance. . . . By the use of film song-strips projected against buildings, People's Songs gets a rooted-to-the-spot attention from street rallies.

More information coming later on the book bought by Edward Choate, the producer, to be adapted to the stage. Subject deals with Negro and white relations.

Notes on writers: Albert Halper closed his typewriter on a new novel about Brooklyn entitled *The Web*. . . . Advance sales on the Elliott Roosevelt book, *As He Saw It*, have been so great that publishers Duell Sloan & Pearce have lowered the price from \$3.50 to \$3.00. . . . Boni & Gaer, publishers of the dollar edition of *The Great Conspiracy Against Russia*, are putting out Maxim Gorky's *Love's Orphans*, translated into English for the first time; *Russian Literature Since*

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