

CONTENTS

Preface, 9

I

The Generation's Beginnings : 1914-28

Oxford Poetry 1927 · 'Mortmere', 17

II

1929-30

Transitional Poem · Paid on Both Sides · Vile Bodies, 38

III

1931-32

'What I expected' · 'I think continually . . .'

New Signatures · The Orators · From Feathers to Iron, 65

IV

1933

New Country · New Verse · The Magnetic Mountain

'The Witnesses' · The Dance of Death

The Brown Book of the Hitler Terror, 98

V

1934

'Summer Night' · *It's a Battlefield*

The Noise of History · Vienna · A Hope for Poetry, 132

VI

1935

The Destructive Element · The Poet's Tongue

'Psychology and Art To-day'

Some Versions of Pastoral · Revolution in Writing

Mr Norris Changes Trains · The Dog Beneath the Skin

'A Time to Dance', 160

VII

1936

New Writing · Noah and the Waters

The Faber Book of Modern Verse · the Left Book Club
the International Surrealist Exhibition
Contemporary Poetry and Prose · *Journey Without Maps*
A Gun for Sale · *The Ascent of F6, 193*

VIII

1937

Poems of the Spanish Civil War by Cornford, Spender
and Auden · *The Novel and the People*
Illusion and Reality · *Forward from Liberalism*
The Modern Mind · *Fact* · *The Road to Wigan Pier*
May the Twelfth · *Letters from Iceland*
Out of the Picture, 242

IX

1938

Trial of a Judge · *On the Frontier* · *The Professor*
Journey to the Border · *Lions and Shadows*
Enemies of Promise · *Modern Poetry, 296*

X

1939

Journey to a War · 'In Memory of W. B. Yeats'
Goodbye to Berlin · *The New Realism* · *The Still Centre*
Autumn Journal · *Coming Up for Air, 340*

XI

1939-40

'September Journal' · 'The Coming of War'
'Inside the Whale' · 'Farewell Chorus'
'Dedicatory Stanzas' · 'The Leaning Tower', 378

Appendices

- A. AUDEN AND DAY LEWIS, 'Preface', *Oxford Poetry 1927, 395*
B. AUDEN, 'I Want the Theatre to Be . . .', 397

Notes, 398

Index, 424