

HAPPY TIMES IN NORWAY. By Sigrid Undset. (Cassell; 6s.)

From her exile in America Madame Undset has produced a most nostalgic little book, full of longing for her native Norway and of tenderness for her three children.

Happy Times in Norway is just a simple chronicle of a year in the life of Sigrid Undset (Mother) and her children Anders, Hans and Tulla, not to speak of Thea the housekeeper and Bøe the chauffeur, and lots of other pleasant people.

Norway, the country, the customs, the home-life, lives for us as we read; as for Anders, Hans and Tulla, they are most adorable.

But Tulla died a year before the terror came to Norway. Anders and Hans, young men then, fought for their country, and Anders fell—a hero. Mother and Hans eventually found their way to America and Hans back to Britain to rejoin his country's army.

The writer of this review also has nostalgic thoughts. He remembers the Feast of the Assumption, 1935, when he said Mass in 'Mother's' drawing-room and Hans—then a little boy—served him. He has not forgotten how they drove after breakfast to Mailhaugen—the great open air museum, so graphically described in the book, and heard two Masses in one of the old wooden churches there.

Was it Bøe who drove the car?

G.B.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of BLACKFRIARS.

Dear Sir,

At the close of an article called 'The Tragedy of James Joyce' in your August issue, Mr. Anthony Birrell suggests that Messrs. Faber and Faber would do well to republish 'A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man.'

May I point out that this book, originally published by the Egoist Press Ltd., has been for some years the property of Messrs. Jonathan Cape Ltd.? There is, or was, a cheap edition.

Yours faithfully,

T. S. ELIOT.

BLACKFRIARS

(with which is incorporated *The Catholic Review*).

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