

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—As one who was privileged to be at the house party at Cambridge, and who went there with many misgivings and prejudices, may I say that so far from the fellowship taking away from the Church and Church principles it puts new meaning into them as the Fatherhood of God, the Atonement made by our blessed Lord on the Cross, and the Guidance of the Holy Spirit in our lives are emphasized; and the Sacraments become far more real than ever before, which is saying a good deal for those of us to whom they have always been the most treasured possession of our religion. These three fundamentals are accepted by all Christians and are the basis of Christian unity. The fellowship is not a sect, nor is there any danger of its becoming one. There is no membership. Whether Catholic or Salvationist or to whatever body one belongs, no one is asked to give up his or her mode of worship, only to be a better member of that body. This should be an answer to those who, only being at the house party for a short time, not long enough to get into it, thought there was a lack of united prayer and worship (of which there were three services daily in the chapel).

With the argument that there is nothing new in what is set forth by the Groups, I believe they would heartily agree. All they are out for may be found in Christ's own ideals of His Kingdom as set forth in the New Testament. But how many of us are living those ideals? There are many, both clergy and laity, who have honestly tried to show forth Christ to the world, and many of these are among the first to welcome the heart-searching of the Groups and are finding thereby a yet more excellent way than they have hitherto known. Those, too, who have gone back and shared their difficulties with their congregations have found a deeper fellowship with them as they have shown themselves to be of like passions with those to whom they minister. But so many of us professing Christians live humdrum, ineffective lives, content with so little real sacrifice, not what the Master expects of His followers. And we are known by our fruits. How many have we really won for Christ by such lives? Are we turning the world upside down, or just acquiescing in things as they are? If we would, one and all, give ourselves to God in complete surrender, to be guided by His Holy Spirit in every detail, and live by His Power which He gives us as we wait on Him in the "Quiet Time," aiming at the four standards of Christian living which are the Group standards—absolute honesty, absolute purity, absolute self-surrender, absolute love—St. John's Vision of the New Jerusalem would come true, and the kingdoms of this world would become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ. There would be no more unhappy homes, no more unemployment, no more war, no more snobbery and caste, no more unhappy divisions, for we should all worship the same God, "high and low, rich and poor, one with another," in unity, not in uniformity, but "in the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," realizing we are all one in Christ.

C. J. MAY ROBSON.

21, West Road, Saffron Walden, Sept. 24.