NORTHERN LIGHTS-KINGDOM NOTES
"THE UNITY OF GODLY LOVE" (Book of Common Prayer)

One of the things which has always been of interest to me, as a Christian throughout my entire life, is the number of denominations which are present in the Christian faith. It seems that even during this present era, the people are dividing into smaller and smaller denominations and church groups; a phenomenon which has been typical of Christianity since the division of the church into the Eastern Orthodox, the Roman Catholic and the Coptic churches early on. The attempt at achieving church unity through the ecumenical movement has been relatively ineffective and, in Canada, the development of the United Church has seen some measure of unity but, there is still throughout Canada, the recurrent tendency of the church for one reason or another to divide, despite the efforts of the United Church and the ecumenical movement.

One of the happy occurrences, in Christian Medical Foundation of Canada and in the United States also, is that doctors and nurses and people in general come together under the banner of the Lord Jesus Christ and under allegiance to the power of God's Holy Spirit, particularly with reference to healing. Thus, we find ourselves worshipping with members of the United Church, the Anglican, and the various Pentecostal denominations, as well as Roman Catholics, Baptists and other smaller groups. From Gander, Newfoundland to Victoria, British Columbia, those of us who are part of CMF of Canada, have been privileged to speak in many denominational churches, including the Ukrainian Orthodox Church! In recent times, we have seen increasing fellowship with such groups as Seventh Day Adventists, Unity and Messianic Judaism.

It would seem that our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is attempting in these last days to bring His body together with an emphasis upon His love, His healing care for His people, and His desire that men receive the power of the Holy Spirit in order to stand in this evil day.

As Christian Medical Foundation comes to its meeting in Belleville at St. Margaret's on the Hill Anglican Church and at the Cavell Block of Belleville General Hospital with doctors and clergy of all denominations, including people who have physical and spiritual needs, indeed this is something to make one's heart glad. I believe also it makes glad the heart of God.

In a day of increasing confusion, it is very important that there be, in the body of Christ, the unity of Godly love. Basically, it has always seemed to me as a layman in the Church, that ministers, primarily, and theologians were the ones who understood all of the various differences between the denominations, and the layman simply goes to church and to church functions to glorify Jesus and to worship Him. In Christian Medical Foundation functions, doctors come together in Christ striving to find the healing Savior, not only for themselves and their families, but also for their patients, some of whom are medically, surgically and psychiatrically hopeless.

As Christian Medical Foundation and those who are interested in the healing ministry through Medicine, and Nursing, and the Church come together in Belleville in September, it is hoped, and this is the object of our concerted prayers, that the healing love of Jesus may fall not only upon those who attend the conference and those who have definite needs, but we also pray that the healing, unifying Godly love of the Lord Jesus Christ, through the power of His Holy Spirit, may be a great tidal wave going east to the maritimes and west to all of the provinces, including the Yukon. We pray that this will be something felt and known in the spirit of God's people across Canada and infiltrating downward into the U.S.A. May we truly experience, dear friends, the unifying power in our lives of God's wonderful healing love.

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