

The Kingdom of God only comes to us as a result of the coming of the Lord Jesus amongst us. The Communion of the Church, viz of those that are gathered round the Lord's table, is of a different kind than the Communion which links members of a common profession. Only when this is kept clearly in mind, can national or international results be expected from this work.

Great Britain

THE CHRISTIAN MEDICAL FELLOWSHIP (in Great Britain)

The Medical profession in the British Isles has for several centuries included in its ranks a number of outstanding scientific men, who were also avowed and practising Christians. Biography shows that not a few of those who have chief claim to be considered amongst the pioneers and the „Masters” of British Medicine, were in their private lives most humble and devout followers of Christ.

Christian medical students in almost all the best known hospitals have had cause to thank God that amongst their teachers have been men who by their own faith and example have prevented a divorce between true scientific practice and Christianity. Unlike the history of Science and Medicine in some countries, where it is said to be a rare thing for members of the Medical profession to be sincere practising Christians, there have been quite a number of British doctors who have taken active part in Christian teaching and speaking. Also, the cause of Christian Missions has for many years claimed a number of Medical Missionaries from British Medical Schools, who have been enthusiastically supported by their medical colleagues.

Organised circles have been in existence for many years both amongst Medical Students in the Colleges and hospitals, and also amongst the Medical graduates practising medicine. This is particularly true of London and Edinburgh, where Christian Medical Societies can be traced as early as 1846. These circles came to a special prosperity and influence around the years 1880—1900, and again between the two world wars. The best known of these societies were the Christian Student Medical Society of Edinburgh, connected with which were the famous large student audiences drawn by leaders such as the late Professor Henry Drummond. Also, well-known is the Medical Prayer Union of London founded in 1873. The last held special meetings for Christian Doctors at times such as the Summer Meeting of the British Medical Association, supported Christian Medical Missions and generally promoted prayer and Christian ethical standards within the Medical Profession.

After the last war, the Medical Prayer Union merged, with a vigorous evangelical movement amongst younger doctors which had grown out of student activities in the universities. The new name is the Christian Medical Fellowship. This combined new movement has a considerably more active programme. It arranges *conferences* for doctors e.g. an annual Conference at Bournemouth in S. England and another in the Lake District of N. England. It has also arranged a number of meetings under the Chairmanship of Christian men, distinguished in the service of Medicine, and the speakers have been well known for their scientific professional work e.g. Professor H. Seddon, F.R.C.S., Superintendent of the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital. Sometimes invited speakers are outstanding Christian Ministers such as Dr. D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones (who himself had given great promise as a younger Physician in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, before he retired from