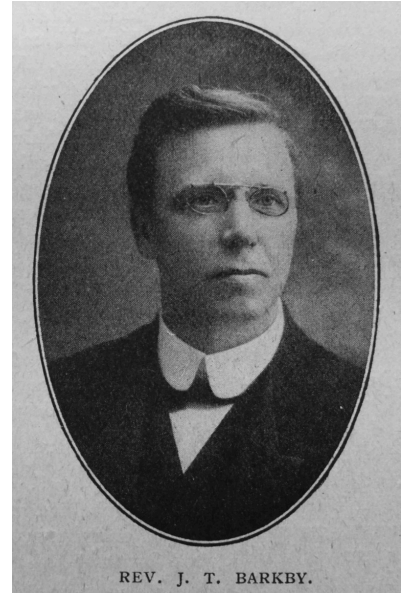


**Rev. J.T. Barkby**  
**The New President of the National C.E. Council**

**Transcription of article published in the Primitive Methodist Magazine by Rev. J.S. White**

THE pleasing fact that the Rev. J.T. Barkby has recently entered upon the duties of his distinguished office as the President of the National Christian Endeavour Council calls for cordial recognition on the part of our Church. The C.E. movement has won for itself a position of unquestionable importance among the Free Churches of this country, and probably in none more fully than in Primitive Methodism. It is scarcely too much to say that in hundreds of instances it has saved the situation by introducing a vitalising and healing element into churches whose growth had stopped as the result of some form of Spiritual heart disease.

Mr. Barkby comes to the presidency in the fulness of his powers, and those powers are of a high order. He has been a minister for over thirty years, and his path has been like that of the just—shining more and more as the years have multiplied. He has steadily grown in pulpit and platform efficiency, as well as in Connexional fame and influence, and is now amongst the foremost leaders of our community. A year hence he will lay down the insignia of office as President of National C.E. Council, only to take up still more arduous duties as the secretary of our Connexional Missionary Society.



Nature has been generous in her gifts to the new President, having provided him with a body of exceptional strength and flexibility. He is tall, muscular— carrying no superfluous flesh, and possessing a voice at once musical and vibrant, which he knows how to use effectively. He is equally well dowered in intellectual, moral and spiritual qualities. His mind moves quickly and with great acumen, He soon penetrates to the heart of a question, and his analytical faculties and richly-stored mind enable him to unfold and illustrate a subject with great lucidity and force. He has read widely, and is keenly alive to all the great questions which stir the public mind from time to time. He is swift to perceive the trend of things, and courageous enough to adopt an attitude towards it which he believes the needs of the hour demand. He is intense alike in conviction and sympathy, and occasionally in danger perhaps of being carried a little too far on the flowing tide of emotion.

The National C.E. Council are to be congratulated upon having secured Mr. Barkby as their President for this year. He will worthily sustain its honourable traditions, and discharge its functions to the delight and entire satisfaction of the great organisation of which he is now the distinguished chief.

---

**References**

*Primitive Methodist Magazine* 1917/504