

Rev. John Bradbury

Transcription of obituary published in the Minutes of Conference

JOHN BRADBURY: born at Derby in 1867. He began his ministry in 1890 in the Primitive Methodist Church, after training in Hartley College. In every circuit where he served he created a memory of fine devotion and achievement. Highly gifted in mind and spirit, he was one of the most impressive preachers of his day. His three great ministries in Grimsby, Blackpool, and Matlock, covering nearly twenty years, are still spoken of with joy and gratitude. During this period he made bold attempts to reach the people outside the Church. The Monthly People's Services in the winter and spring became a vital part of his life and work. The great eternal messages of religion, presented strongly and vividly in all their personal and social meaning, were listened to by multitudes who had long been strangers to such a witness. As secretary of the Candidates' Examining Committee, his sagacity and spiritual insight were of the greatest value. He wrote regularly for our Church magazines. He was one of the men who helped to found the Connexional paper, the Leader, and for a number of years wrote a devotional article each week. Above all, his friends knew him as one who carried into every situation the mystic's deep and unclouded sense of the divine. He retired in 1927, but continued serving the Churches until the last year, when his physical strength failed. On September 4, 1936, he passed to the higher service and the fuller life.

References

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