

## **David Samuel Lees**

### **Transcription of Obituary in Minutes of Methodist Conference**

Born at Hammerwick, Staffs, in 1869. After training at Hartley College he entered the Primitive Methodist Ministry in 1890, and served for forty-nine years, mostly in the West Midlands and Lancashire.

A lover of all things beautiful and true in literature and the world about him, he was even more a lover of his fellow-men.

Indeed, it was this human sympathy which in circuit after circuit endeared him to so many.

The fact that he held at various times the positions of Secretary and Chairman of his District indicates the esteem with which he was regarded by his brethren.

Yet always his keenest interests were in the day-to-day activities of his own circuit.

With a mind well furnished by wide reading and a spirit refined by discipline and prayer, he fulfilled a ministry of great fruitfulness.

It was in the depth and intensity of his religious experience that the richness of his personality was revealed. Here was a man of humble heart who never ceased to wonder why God should have sought him out for special work in His Church.

In a private diary found after his death these words are written : 'I thank God for the honour of being called into His service, and the Church for receiving me, and humbly pray for His blessing, peace, and final victory. To Him be all glory and praise' That was the man—devout, keenly alive to the glory of God's world and, above all, proud to be a servant of Christ in His Church.

As he stepped into the pulpit on the last occasion, feeling obviously his weight of years, he was so thrilled at the sight of so many young holiday-makers in the congregation that for a moment his own youth was renewed and he preached with a tenderness of appeal not soon to be forgotten.

It was his swan-song. He died on 12th September 1949, in the eightieth year of his life, with his face toward the hills and the sea he so ardently loved.

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### **References**

*Methodist Minutes* 1950/125

Transcribed by Christopher Hancock