

### **Hastings Farewells Rev. and Mrs E. Nicholls - 1934**

The Rev. E. Nicholls and Mrs Nicholls will have pleasant memories of the great send-off accorded to them by the members and adherents of the Hastings Baptist Church on Tuesday, February 27.

The schoolroom was packed to its limits. Mr Sims, senior deacon, presided over the gathering, and farewell addresses were given by Rev. R. Gosnell (Methodist), Rev. Mr Martin (Presbyterian), and Mr J. Thorp (representing the Hastings Church adherents). The addresses were interspersed with musical and elocutionary items.

Mr J. Bewley, on behalf of the choir, presented Mrs Nicholls with a handsome silver tea pot, while Mr Nicholls was the recipient of a cheque as a token of esteem from members and friends. Mr Nicholls replied in one of his typical humorous speeches.

Refreshments were handed round by the ladies, and the singing of "God Be With You" brought to a close a very happy and successful ministry.

There was quite a Baptist open-air rally at the railway station on the Thursday, which was a testimony to the affection in which the departing minister and his wife were held. Before the train steamed out friends sang heartily, "Wide, Wide as the Ocean, High as the Heaven Above."