

## **Congregational School**

### **Tribute to "Old Boys"**

"Breaking up" day was of more than usual interest this year. On the 21st Mrs. E.C. Beavan kindly entertained the children to tea, after which a considerable number of parents and friends assembled to witness the unveiling of two large framed photograph groups of "Old Boys" serving with His Majesty's Forces in various parts of the world. In all there were 31 photographs, and it was announced that a third group of 15 is in preparation.

The Rev. L. K. Fletcher, who presided, called upon Mrs. Beavan, who expressed her great pleasure in being asked to unveil groups of such unusual interest. She then removed the coverings and asked Mr. Longstaff to read a letter which he had received from leading Seaman R. V. Harris. The letter described the loss of one of H.M.S. battleships in the Dardanelles, on May 25th 1915. The writer told how, when rowing about to rescue poor fellows struggling in the water, he saw the ship's Union Jack floating with some wreckage. Seaman Harris recovered the flag and presented it to his old school.

Mr. Longstaff has had the flag placed in a prominent position over his desk. He said they were gratified to know that their "Old Boys" were rendering such good service to their King and country, and he asked those present to give a very hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Beaven, with an earnest expression of their hope that Mr. Beaven would be fully restored to health and able to join them on future occasions. Reference was also made to another "Old Boy", Horace Beurdsell, who was one of the 13 saved from H.M.S. Hampshire.

During the evening the scholars sang a number of patriotic songs, and ten girls gave the action song "Ambulance Maids", their exhibition of smart and correct bandaging being much admired.

The children had decorated the room very tastefully, and a pleasant time was spent. On leaving they were presented with buns.

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