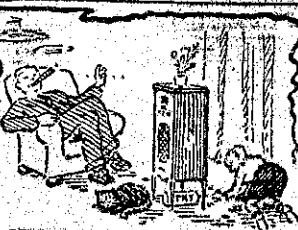


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Snippets From Outstanding Talks of the Week.

MR. JOHN STANLEY, 3YA.

SALMON are the delight of every angler's heart, and when they commence to run up the snow rivers of the South Island each year fishermen are inclined to contract what is commonly known as "March Fever," a complaint which makes them haunt the river-banks and afterward tell rather tall stories. It's expensive, too, for salmon brings a good price in the shops. Perhaps it would be just as well, before I start telling you fish stories, to say that I am not a fully-blown angler. I fell down in the imagination trial.

AWAY back in the 'seventies Hagley Park must have been very much like a zoo. There were deer there, emus, kangaroos, wallabies and even hares, hedgehogs, ferrets and guinea-pigs, none of which are natives of New Zealand. There were dozens of different kinds of birds, including jack-daws, pheasants, magpies, partridges and nightingales—and the sparrow, of course, introduced because it brought back memories of England. Even the earwig was carefully shepherd into the country.

I HAVE discovered why anglers lie, and why big game hunters don't. A tigerskin can be stretched, so that a nine-footer can easily have a couple of feet added to its length. Fish, on the other hand, shrink and lose weight when left out of water, so to square things up, the angler has to stretch his

tales. Quite fair, on the law of averages.

DR. J. HIGHT, 3YA.

THE nations must disarm before there is any remission of war debts, in order to escape the imputation that they would use the advantages coming from war-debt remissions to increase armament expenditure, and secondly to carry out the solemn promises made to Germany in 1919. And disarmament, to be effective, must be general and enforced by adequate administrative devices.

THE danger to Austria from the Nazis drove her Chancellor into negotiations with Mussolini; Dollfuss was again in Italy early in June, just before the Economic Conference. There has been a revival of national feeling in Austria, but it is very doubtful if the Nazi danger will be overcome by the Dollfuss Government, which is by no means firmly based despite the revival of Austrian nationalism.

THE delegates to the World Conference should assemble in sackcloth and ashes, with humble and contrite hearts. It is, I suppose, well-nigh the fiftieth of post-war conferences.

MR. G. O. BARNETT, 3YA.

CAMPING out in Borneo is not a pleasant business, and it is often the surveyor's lot as the rest houses or small hotels are found only in villages

and small towns. Sometimes one is lucky enough to be able to get a fairly clean room in a village nearby, otherwise it means camping out on the spot, which may be in thick jungle, or, worse still, in a swamp. As soon as the space for a camping ground is cleared, one's coolies at once build a hut made out of leaves and bamboo, just big enough to take one's camp bed comfortably. A camp bed mosquito net is not a very high one, so of course it is unbearably hot. One has to get under as soon as it is sundown, or be eaten alive by mosquitos and sandflies.

ON my first day's trip in the virgin jungle I expected to hear the roaring of tigers and of lions, trumpeting of elephants, and snakes swishing through the dead leaves—but everything was quiet. . . I think "furtive" describes it best. So much for the day. At night the jungle awakened. The noise is deafening and at times terrifying. Hundreds of monkeys squealing, birds squawking, pigs grunting, buzzing insects, and the occasional trumpet of elephants or roar of gorillas, all combine to make the night hideous.

I HAVE been asked what prospects there are in North Borneo for young men leaving our colleges. At the present time I should say there are absolutely none. Later, when things right themselves, there will be openings on plantations and in the timber industry, which is at present only slightly developed. While there is not a lot of big game, the field open to the naturalist is huge, as the place is teeming with thousands of species of small animals, birds and butterflies. To the tourist there will ever be an abundant source of interest, and to the explorer, unending adventure.