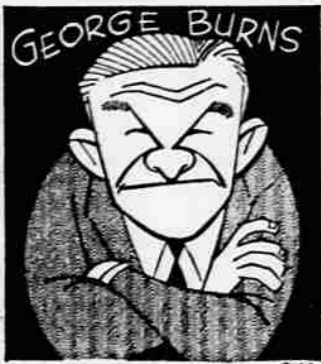


Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

GRACIE ALLEN recalls: "The first time I ever met George Burns he gave me a pass to the theater in Union Hills, N. J., where he was doing a vaudeville act. I went to the matinee the next day and was I surprised! George was being co-starred with a movie called 'The Birth of a Nation' and 10 other acts, but he was so modest he hadn't even mentioned them. I felt very proud. There must have been eight or nine people in that audience and I was the only one with a pass."



Gracie had a fine vacation in Honolulu recently, and was telling a reporter all about it. "Did you go by boat or plane?" asked the reporter. "I don't really know," admitted Gracie. "George bought the tickets."

A man working in the U. S. Weather bureau took time out to discuss his new wife the other day. "How that gal can talk," he exclaimed admiringly. "Her usual velocity is 160 words a minute, but she has gusts as high as 190!"

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Another American rocket has soared into the air from Cape Canaveral, carrying in its nose another instrument-bearing satellite. As this is written, it isn't known whether the satellite has gone into orbit. It will be known, presumably, by the time this is read.

How important is another satellite?

Not TOO important. We've orbited satellites before. If we can do it once, we can do it again. What is important is the MISSILE that carries the satellite aloft.

WHY are missiles important?

The answer is simple. When intercontinental missiles are PERFECTED, they can get us away from the need to keep American troops on foreign soil—at bases where American bombers can be launched quickly against an enemy in massive retaliation for an attack directed at us. The sooner we can get American troops off foreign soil, the better our world relations will be.

LET'S put it this way: If the British, or the French, or the Germans, or the Japanese—any of our allies—kept troops on our soil, we'd RESENT it.

That's just human nature.

ALONG that line, there is this hopeful note in the news this morning:

American troops in Lebanon are getting ready to PULL OUT and come home. Marines are loading fuel, ammunition and heavy equipment in preparation for their departure. A reliable military source predicts that ALL AMERICAN FORCES will be out of the Middle East country by Oct. 17.

If that turns out to be true, our relations in the Middle East—which are far from good now—will IMPROVE.

GETTING back to the missile—

It will make atomic war no less terrible. An atom or a hydrogen bomb in the nose of a missile will be just as frightful, just as destructive, as a similar bomb dropped from an airplane.

The missile will be no less expensive than the more conventional bomber. Modern war is costly in dollars. It will get more costly still as time passes and as weapons become more complicated.

But when the intercontinental range missile is finally perfected, it will be possible to launch it from our own soil.

Is That So?

By OLGA BURNS

One of the drollest birds to look for in the fall migration is the red-breasted nuthatch.

When you see him, or his cousin, the white-breasted nuthatch who spends his summers in this country, as likely as not he will be strolling head first down the side of a tree—or maybe even swagger along on the underside of a branch.

The nuthatches, red or white-breasted, have a jaunty cocky air about them that one would expect from bigger birds with more handsome plumage. Why they have it is probably due mainly to their manner of hunting.

As the little fellow—they rarely reach a length of seven inches from bill tip to tail end—hops along the bark, he pauses occasionally to cock his head. The reason is he is looking or listening for an insect. When he locates one, he tips his head back quickly and brings down his powerful tapered bill hard into the bark.

Because of him, many a borer or other insect detrimental to our trees is done away with. And he doesn't catch them only in the bark. himself. During much of the year he hunts them on the wing as well.

But it isn't through his pursuit of living prey that he got his name. That is due to the way in which he deals with nuts and seeds when he varies his diet in the fall.

Naturally for so small a bird the business of cracking some of the nuts presents quite a problem. How he solves it is to take the nut to the side of a tree, fix it

firmly in a crevice of the bark, then batter and hack it with his bill until he breaks the shell.

Sight Impressive

The sight of him at work is quite impressive. Anyone who sees him and who has tried to crack a hickory nut with a metal nutcracker will immediately realize that his punch is packed with power. As to where you are most likely to see a nuthatch on his way south an orchard is probably the best place. They seem to favor such places as a park likely source of food. Parks are nearly as good, though, for they tend to be quite friendly to man. In fact, if you have a feeding area for birds near your home, you are quite likely to have one take advantage.

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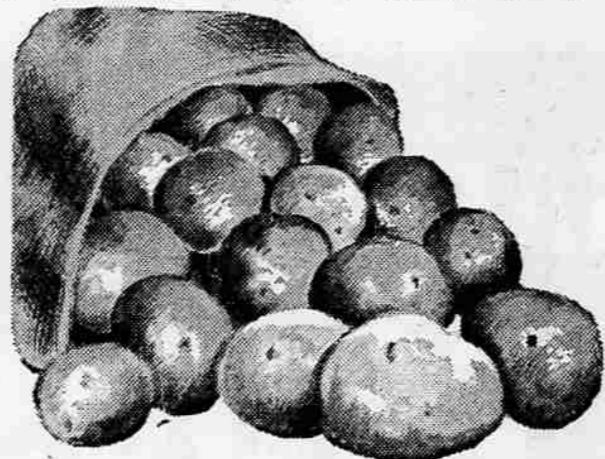
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