

Nurse and her party and I expect they wondered how on earth any semblance of an organised show could develop from it. But of course it always does. The ease of McDonald Hobley's compèring and the deft conducting of Eric Robinson of the orchestra of 40 members all adds to the precision of the evening's entertainment.

Nurse met Douglas Moodie, the producer upon whom the whole show depends, for it is his control of the studio and his split-second switching from camera to camera that gives the show polish and speed. Then after a meal in the B.B.C. canteen, where everybody eats, from the V.I.P.s to the call boys, Nurse took her place in the study while her guests went to the viewing room to see the show as all viewers would, on a television set. Nurse stood close to Ronnie Waldman's "set"—a rather comfortable office it would appear on the screen, of course, but if the viewers could see on either side of it, they would be sadly disillusioned by the mass of wires, and even the harpist from the orchestra who was only two feet from it. On the other side was a huge vegetable stall! This was for John Slater's act in the programme when he told a story of a Cockney greengrocer.

Sharp on 8.35 p.m., there is deathly silence in the studio as the red light comes on. There is a roll of drums and the orchestra begin the signature tune. "Kaleidoscope" is on the air. The face of Mac Hobley comes on to the screen and bids the viewers good evening.

They started him off this time in a Paris glove shop where he first interviewed Mr. Martin Holmes with some wonderful gloves dating back hundreds of years from the London Museum collection, and then Liza Williams who had a glove puppet called Pierre which actually painted Mac's portrait while he talked to her. As the subject of the start of the programme was gloves, there was also a clever glove ballet by three girls, with just their hands and arms showing and moving in precision to excellent music especially composed for the sequence by Frank Cordell.

Lind Joyce sang a neat number about the men she meets about town and then Mac Hobley announced Ronnie

Waldman in "Puzzle Corner." After discussing some of the replies he had had to his "deliberate mistake" on the previous show, he introduced Miss Redman.

Nurse looked extremely attractive in uniform and there was no trace of nervousness in her concise replies to his questions. She described the recreation room at the Western Hospital and then, when asked how long she had been nursing she replied seven years. She had come straight from service in the W.A.A.F., she told Ronnie Waldman, and when asked if she liked her job, added that it was just what she wanted in life. With a significant look towards the viewers Mr. Waldman said that perhaps a few young girls looking-in might bear Nurse Redman's words in mind.

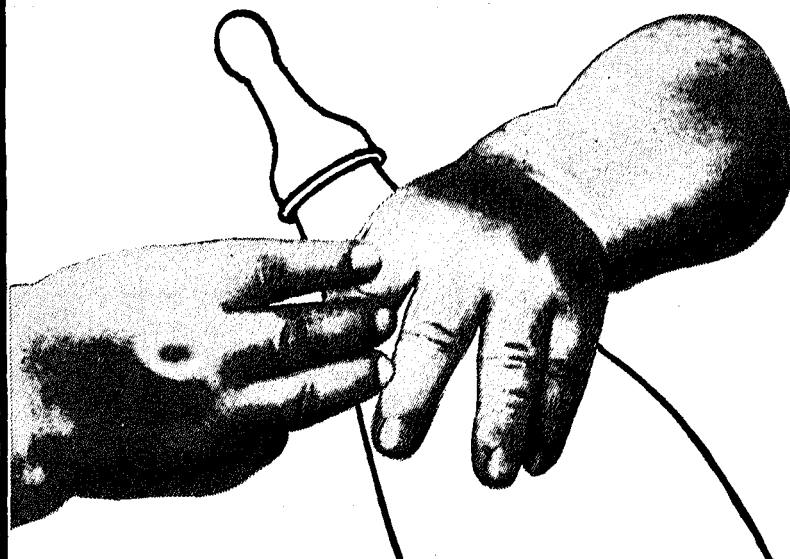
After a handshake, Nurse left the screen and the show went on. Strangely enough she heard the next "victim" on Puzzle Corner, Mrs. Bennett of Redditch, in Worcestershire, also get FULL marks! This is a rare coincidence also. Mrs. Bennett only had to get 19 out of 19 and was also getting help from what sounded a very merry party when Ronnie Waldman spoke to her on the telephone.

This was a memorable night in Nurse's life no doubt but then we of show business are not blind to the fact that it is people like her in the great nursing profession, whose constant care and attention allow us to carry on again after sickness strikes us. Nurse had that quiet confidence that epitomises the true nurse... or shall we say, sister? That is a very human title. "Show business" says thanks to you all.

We who accompanied Nurse would like to say a thank you to Mr. Ronnie Waldman, Mr. Douglas Moody and their very able Secretaries. Their kindness and charm will always remain a very happy memory—as will also their "greed for work." Surely no one—not even nurses—work so hard, so patiently and so efficiently to obtain perfection in their jobs!

A very hearty "thank you" also to Mr. Dennis Castle who so kindly wrote this article; he is a well-known actor and B.B.C. script writer and lyric writer.

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of it is...*



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Extract from opening address at the Professional Nurses and Midwives Conference and Exhibition on Monday 17th October 1949

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[previous page](#)

[next page](#)