

**Mrs. Scalmasi  
Funeral Rites**

Seneca Falls—Funeral Mass was offered for Mrs. Mary Scalmasi at St. Patrick's Church, here Tuesday, Oct. 19. Mrs. Scalmasi, 89, of 6 Center St., widow of Peter Scalmasi, died Saturday, Oct. 16, 1965 after an extended illness.

She was a member of the S.M.S. Auxiliary.

Surviving are four daughters, Mrs. Nicolas Gentile, Mrs. Daniel Bellomo, Mrs. Guy Lambert and Mrs. Michael Ferrara; one son, Joseph Scalmasi and 14 grandchildren, all of Seneca Falls.

Burial was in St. Columbskill Cemetery arrangements by Doran Funeral Home.

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**"Captain Kangaroo"  
Almost Scuttled  
by Fan Support**

New York—"Captain Kangaroo" this month celebrated his 10th anniversary and all across the land many people took part in a letter writing campaign to keep him alive — when they learned that CBS-TV planned to scuttle the show — are congratulating themselves. But "Captain Kangaroo" has an unusual birthday surprise for them. They almost killed him!

The Captain—in real life 38-year-old Robert Keeshan — has won most of his following and critical acclaim and prizes for instructing children on his Monday-through-Saturday morning hour-long show, but in his office last week, he indicated it was the adults who needed instruction — particularly in how to influence networks to carry good programs.

On his desk was a report of how the National Association For Better Radio and Television (NAFBRT) had launched a letter-writing campaign when CBS-TV let it be known last Spring that "Captain Kangaroo" was to be dropped in favor of a new Robert Keeshan show called "Mister Mayor."

Keeshan said that the NAFBRAT campaign and subsequent comment about it made it appear that (1) CBS-TV was the villain, and (2) the letter-writing tactic was successful and should be regarded as a model for future efforts.

"If NAFBRAT had been that effective, there would be no 'Captain Kangaroo' today," Keeshan said. He went on to explain that the future of "Captain Kangaroo" was in jeopardy not because of any ill will on the part of CBS-TV but because of a complicated legal association Keeshan had with another individual — an association that CBS wanted broken before it would continue the "Captain Kangaroo" show. Ironically, had the letter-writing campaign been stronger that it actually was, Keeshan remarked, the legal tie-up would have been much stronger, with the result that CBS-TV would have been forced to let "Captain Kangaroo" die.

But what Keeshan wished to stress during the interview with Catholic Entertainment Features was the principal of effective technique for such groups as NAFBRAT, which he said he admired, despite its being "unrealistic at times."

"The problem with most of these groups is that they react to a situation after it's too late," Keeshan said. "I think that if viewers can do anything in a positive way, it's to write beforehand, saying how much they like the show, that they're going to buy the sponsor's product, and so on. By the time they get around to protesting the cancellation of a show, it's too late; the decision is irreversible."

Keeshan is not very impressed either by recent articles and surveys on the supposed dire effects of TV viewing by children. "A child may not become as skilled a criminal without television, but he's

still going to become a criminal."

He believes that principle works in reverse, also.

"People write and say I influence their children who watch 'Captain Kangaroo.' But it's not so, really. The child I influenced was ready to be influenced. If I'm being watched by a disturbed child, I can't have any positive effect."

In fact, Keeshan gives most of the credit for the success of his show to technical know-how.

"If I'm successful," he said, "it's not because of good intention. It's because of my knowledge of the business."

This knowledge goes back to the days of "Howdy Doody," when for five years Keeshan was Clarabell the Clown, a job he stumbled onto while he was attending Fordham Law School at night ("I think the Jesuits are the greatest preparation for life you can get") and working days as an NBC page.

Later, he was Corny the Clown on a New York station, until in 1954 he launched a local program called "Tinker's Workshop," the direct predecessor to "Captain Kangaroo" ("I'm not sure whether we got the name 'Captain Kangaroo' to go with the big pockets I have in my jacket on the show or whether we got the big pockets to go with the name.")

His wish is that the TV networks will see the wisdom of setting up a special department for children's programming to develop superior programs for children (a children's news program is one idea he would like to see explored).

"Each network has a Public Affairs Department, which is expected to lose money, for the networks are aware that as a mass medium they have a responsibility to keep the public informed," he has said. "The networks should have a Children's Department on which they would expect to lose money too, for nobody would deny that the brain power of our children is our greatest national resource."

(Catholic Entertainment Features)



Robert Keeshan, better known as "Captain Kangaroo."

**'Peter Pan' To Feature  
Mercy's Mission Show**

"Peter Pan," the stage musical, made famous by Mary Martin, will be presented as Mercy High School's Mission Show this year on Nov. 12, 13 and 14. Sister Mary Pius will direct the show.

Senior Ellen Tallmadge has captured the title role of the boy "who never wanted to grow up." Others in the cast include Mimi Kennedy as Captain Hook, Anne Gales as Wendy, Kathy Gefell as the grown-up Wendy, Nancy Nowicki as Mrs. Darling, Mary Theresa Ralph as Tiger Lily, Nancy Lomenzo as Tinker Bell, Daryl Farone as Nana the dog, and Alice Tallmadge as Liza.

Swashbuckling pirates will be played by Mary Joan Boylan, Pat Schubert, Roseanne Bocka, Judy Zelter, Mary Yeager and Mary Jo Casey. Cast as the lost boys are Kathy Spiegel, Kathy O'Connor, Cindy Inness, Mary Jo Mayer, Mary Lou Andrychuk and Jean Vollmer. Thirty other Mercy students round out the cast as Indians, pirates and lost boys.

The male cast includes Peter Sear, McQuaid; Brian O'Connor, Queen of Peace; and Mark Kilmas, St. Thomas the Apostle.



NANCY NOWICKI  
In Mercy Cast

**High School  
Forensics  
Aquinas Hosts Debate**

Sacred Heart Academy, will join Aquinas, Bishop Kearney, Cardinal Mooney and McQuaid to compose the five Catholic High schools in the Rochester Area Debate League. This year the league, which has fifteen area high schools in all, will meet five Saturdays at Aquinas Institute, 1127 Dewey Avenue. League director is Gordon J. DeHond of Aquinas Institute.

The RADL is designed to provide experience for Novice and JV debaters. The league provides no varsity competition. Last year Eastridge won the JV division and Aquinas the Novice division.

The first meeting tomorrow October 23 will find a hundred and fifty students taking part. There are four rounds per meeting scheduled 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Other dates are November 13, December 11, January 8 and February 19. All events are open to the public.

**Aquinas Takes Oponer**

The Aquinas debaters opened their season on Oct. 16-18 by winning the Canisius High School Invitational Debate Tournament held in Buffalo.

The Varsity squad composed of four seniors, Dave Hill and Mark Killenbeck on the affirmative, and Ron Hoenig and Marty Drilling on the negative, outdebated 31 schools to complete a perfect record for eight debates and win the first place trophy. The affirmative team captured the trophy for the best affirmative team with four wins and no defeats while the negative team posting the same score was awarded the trophy for the second best negative.

While debating this year's resolution: Resolved: That the Federal Government should adopt a plan of compulsory arbitration in labor-management disputes in basic industries, Dave Hill was judged the best speaker of the tournament.

Bishop Kearney's varsity entries came out well in the Buffalo meet, as Jim Hasenauer and Bob Kiggins achieved a 3-1 record on the negative side, gaining a trophy for this and their high speaker ratings. On the affirmative position, Mike Crittelli and Joan Greenfield also had a 3-1 record, losing only to first place Aquinas.

**Good Counsel**

**Alumnae Meet**

The Upstate Chapter of the Good Counsel Alumnae Association held its annual fall meeting recently at St. Andrew's Seminary, Mass. was celebrated by Bishop Kearney in the chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Afterwards a luncheon was served and a business meeting followed presided over by Mrs. John White, president of the chapter. Representatives from Buffalo, Auburn, Syracuse and Rochester attended.

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EDUCATION . . .  
Graduate West High School 1935, Hobart College 1939; Attended University of Rochester and Graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology 1944 (Industrial Management Course)

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE . . .  
Public Accountant 1945 to present. Stromberg Carlson 1942-45; Eastman Kodak 1941-42.

Secretary—State Street Merchants Ass'n; President Hobart Club of Rochester; Treasurer—Irondequoit Republican Town County Committee; Past President—Professional Men's Club Treasurer; Father's Council, McQuaid Jesuit High School, Holy Name Society; St. Ambrose Church; Business Men's Ass'n; Empire State Ass'n. of Public Accountants; National Society of Public Accountants; Rochester Chamber of Commerce; Treasurer Father's Council—Academy of the Sacred Heart; Father's Council—McQuaid Jesuit High School; Founder's Club—McQuaid Jesuit High School; Daily Mass League; Knights of Columbus; Fourth Degree; Circus Saints and Sinners; Holy Angels Guild; Irondequoit Men's Republican Club; Loyola Council of Rochester; Notre Dame Retreat League and Scoutmaster Troop 22.

**VOTE ROW "A" — ALL THE WAY!**



**GAY NINETIES REVUE** for the patients at Monroe County Home and Infirmary will be put on this Sunday, Oct. 24 by the St. Thomas More Club. Rehearsing for the show are Nancy Starrett, pianist, and Joe Turiano, guitarist. Chuck Baker will direct the band and chorus for the 3 p.m. show.

**St. John Fisher Slates  
'Catholic College Night'**

A "Catholic College Night" sponsored by the Rochester Catholic Guidance Council will be held at St. John Fisher College Saturday, Oct. 23, at 7:30 p.m.

High school juniors and seniors and their parents will have the opportunity to meet with admissions officers from more than seventy Catholic colleges,

**Ladies Hold  
Rummage Sale**

The Infant of Prague committee of Elmira Ladies of Charity will hold a rummage sale today (Friday) at the Penna R.R. YMCA corner of Kinyon and Miller streets from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Mrs. Ralph Stamp, general chairman, is being assisted by the membership.

Proceeds from the affair will be used for the benefit of a needy family at Thanksgiving and the Dominican Monastery.

**Lepers Send Thanks  
To Bandage-Rollers**

Lepers in Burma could not write to thank the members of Court No. 1139, Catholic Daughters of America in Rochester, for the shipment of cotton bandages just received, "because the majority of them have no fingers, with which to hold a pen or pencil."

Expressing the lepers' gratitude to the mission-minded group—however, was Father John B. Toner, of the LaSalette Fathers who run the leprosarium in Theemyo. His letter was read at the Oct. 12 meeting of the C.D.A. Court.

Mrs. William Crosby is chairman of the Bandage Committee, which sterilizes sheets, cuts them to 2 or 3 inch strips, rolls, packs and ships them to the mission fields. Her group includes Mesdames Anthony

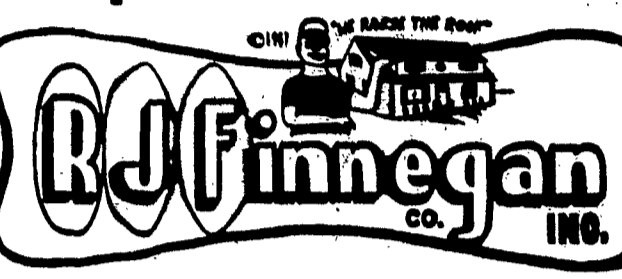
**Mission Unit  
Plans Meeting**

The Mission committee of Court St. Rita 137, Catholic Daughters of America, Elmira, will meet at the clubrooms on Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Francis Crowley, grand regent, requests all members to be present.

COURIER-JOURNAL  
Friday, Oct. 22, 1965

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