

BANYAY, Ralph S. physician
*1896 + May 21-1970, New York

Ralph S. Banay, 73, Prison Psychiatrist

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(88)

NEW YORK, May 21 (AP)—
Dr. Ralph S. Banay, 73, former
director of psychiatry at Sing
Sing prison, died Friday in a
New York hospital.

Dr. Banay was a foe of the
prison system who did much
of his research and writing on
crime prevention, treatment of
delinquents and most recently
drug addiction.

The Hungarian-born psy-
chiatrist was psychiatry direc-
tor at Sing Sing from 1940 to
1943.

Years later, he advocated
abolition of prisons, which he
called relics of "medieval con-
cepts of crime and punish-
ment" that perpetuate and
multiply crime rather than ar-
rest it.

He also held that there was
a direct link between juvenile
crime and movie and televi-
sion crime fare. In 1955, he
told a Senate Subcommittee
investigating the causes of ju-
venile delinquency headed by
the late Estes Kefauver:

"If a prison is called a 'Col-
lege of Crime,' then viewing
of violent TV programs by
young, emotionally disturbed
children is perhaps a 'School
for Delinquency.'"

Dr. Banay's survivors in-
clude his widow, Mary; a son
Ronald, and three daughters,
Suzanne Eve, Mary Clare and
Roberta Kelly.

