

RECENTLY PUBLISHED

Turin Shroud—Image of Christ? Proceedings of a Symposium held in Hong Kong, March 1986. Published in Hong Kong, March 1987. Price per copy, US \$6.00 or equivalent for surface mail, \$8 airmail. A 25% discount offered for orders of 10 or more copies. Payment should be made to: William Meacham, 259 Gloucester Rd. 8-B, Hong Kong.

The *Proceedings* was edited by William Meacham, who promoted the Symposium and Exhibition, organizing a local committee and making plans, over two or three years, in cooperation with Rex Morgan, to mount the Brooks Institute Photographic Exhibit of the Shroud in Hong Kong.

An Introduction by Rex Morgan is interspersed with pages of photographs showing some of the 200,000 visitors intently choosing the bi-lingual hand-out literature; some of the ceremonies; and of the speakers, gathered here from around the world.

Ian Wilson, coming from England, delivered a reply to Prof. Averil Cameron, whose inaugural lecture as Professor of Ancient History at King's College, London, was an attack on Wilson's Mandyion theory. Having been specifically asked to respond to Prof. Cameron's criticisms, Wilson remarks that he is happy to do so, and proceeds with his usual aplomb.

Prof. Luigi Gonella, from Italy, gave an address entitled "Scientific Investigation of the Shroud of Turin: Problems, Results, and Methodological Lessons". With clarity and thoroughness, Gonella summarizes the work of STURP.

William Meacham's address, on radiocarbon measurement, appeared in an abbreviated version in *Spectrum* #19, June 1986.

Dr. Alan Adler, from Connecticut, resumed the work done by himself and Dr. John Heller, in "The Origin and Nature of Blood on the Turin Shroud".

And Rex Morgan describes his interest and research on the paintings of Thomas Heaphy in "The Holy Shroud and the Earliest Paintings of Christ".

Have I forgotten somebody? Not at all! *Dulcis in fundo*, we have kept the best till the last, though his article was the first in the book: Father Peter M. Rinaldi, S.D.B., "Some Reflections on the Shroud". And indeed, Fr. Rinaldi passes in review the ups and downs of recent Shroud history, recalling his encounters with the almost legendary Secondo Pia, Paul Vignon, Pierre Barbet, Giuseppe Enrie...

But what emerges from this two-and-a-half-page reminiscence is the pure essence of a life steeped in the Shroud of Christ. In all the Shroud's history, no one man has ever been called to do so much. The underlying purpose of his activity over these fifty-odd years

identifies with the purpose of the Shroud: and in his closing sentence Don Rinaldi gives the word to the Anglican Bishop John T. Robinson: "The quest for the Shroud can lead only to the quest for Christ". Don Rinaldi, who knew the way, has led unknown thousands in this quest.

D.C.

Scienza e Fede #17-18, May-December 1986.

The editor, Dr. Salvino Leone, prefaces this issue with a Letter to the Readers: "...The difficulties that for a long time have weighed on our journal and to which we have tried to face courageously compel us to a painful decision: *Scienza e Fede* must suspend publication."

It is the painful cry of many an editor and publisher who tried, in the face of every sacrifice, to bring a quality periodical to an elite coterie of readers by its very nature insufficient to support the enterprise. The appeals of Don Noguier di Malijay for financial help for his *Bulletin du Saint-Suaire* wrench our hearts today though it seems they never reached the ears of any wealthy benefactor. Fifteen issues were published between January 1925 and December 1928. On 15 February 1929, the Shroud scholar sent a letter to his readers, explaining why the *Bulletin* would have to be discontinued.

Scienza e Fede persevered in hope for six years. The scope of the journal was toward an honest discovery of the truth in a dialogue between religious science and natural and human sciences: "...a truth which we hold to exist even though only partially evident; to be a single unity even if fragmentary in its manifestations; and knowable even if still unknown in many of its aspects."

Such a definition seems made for the Shroud and in fact *Scienza e Fede* has published sindonic studies on several occasions, always mentioned in *Spectrum*.

For example, the lead article in the first issue (Jan.-April 1981), now out of print, was by Dr. Sebastiano Rodante: "The Healings of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke". Looking back over the span of the years, this valedictory issue recalls the commencement by reprinting the entire first issue.

We salute Dr. Leone and all his authors and staff, thanking them for the serious and scholarly contributions they made over the years.

GIULIO RICCI: *L'Uomo della Sindone e Gesù*, (1985).

This is the third edition of Mons. Ricci's book of 1966. The scientific findings since 1978 are summarized in the first section (pp. 4261) with a listing of some of the scientists and the work they did. Pages 211-238 set forth the research done on the Sudarium of

Oviedo, followed by dramatic color photos of the cloth. Although the bulk of the book is a reprint of the previous editions, the added information is of interest. The English version is available at: The Holy Shroud Center, 7700 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee WI 53213.

IAN WILSON: *The Mysterious Shroud*, Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1986. xiii, 158 pp. Photographs by Vernon Miller and others.

At 158 pages, this book is smaller than its predecessor, *The Shroud of Turin* (Doubleday, 1978). Wilson has deftly described the "mysterious" relic, its history, and the many problems that remain unresolved. The scientific investigation of 1978 accounts for more than one-third of the primary text. The Author has succinctly presented all the pertinent aspects of sindonic studies, usually pairing the various arguments pro and contra authenticity. But since the book is meant for a general audience, many fascinating details of Shroud research, discussed elsewhere by specialists and treated in greater detail in Wilson's first book, have been glossed over.

His two main theses, proposed in his first book—the possible relation of the Shroud to the Edessa Image and a conjectured connection between the Shroud and the Knights Templar—are considerably reduced in the new book. But his comments on iconography, another recurring theme in his work, have taken on a more sophisticated appearance by the use of Alan Whanger's polarized image overlay photos.

Photographs are a primary necessity for understanding the significance of the many details that militate against the Shroud's being a "clever forgery"; and *The Mysterious Shroud*, with 35 color and 77 black & white photographs, does not skimp on illustrations. Most are interesting, but there are also the all-too-familiar shots of Max Frei taking a tape sample and the cardboard sculpture of the frontal image. Furthermore, most of the black & white pictures are poorly reproduced (see the ghostlike magnification of the linen cloth on page 37) and the flopped picture of the frontal negative on page 6 is inexcusable.

Vernon Miller of STURP is mentioned on the dust cover as prominently as Wilson; in fact, relatively few of the photos are his.

There is a nine-page bibliography highlighting the scientific papers that immediately preceded and directly followed the 1978 tests; a fairly detailed and much needed index, unlike Wilson's earlier book which is nearly impossible to use. Notes on the text are not called out as footnotes, which can be rather annoying. Shortcomings aside, *The Mysterious Shroud* is an attractive introduction for the uninitiated and an excellent summary of the 1978 scientific examination of Christ's burial cloth.

DAVID SCHULTZ

GIORGIO TESSIORE: *Promuovere la Conoscenza di Cristo mediante la Sindone*, Rome (1986). 107 pp., illus. in color, black & white. An introduction by Bishop Enrico Comagnone.

This neat little book is dedicated to the memory of Mons. Luigi Novarese, founder of the "Center for Volunteers in Suffering". At the request of Mons. Novarese, Prof. Tessiore wrote this book to strengthen the members of the Association in offering themselves and their sufferings to Christ Crucified. A writer better suited for this task could not have been found. Prof. Tessiore has studied and contemplated and written about the Shroud for decades. Furthermore, he is handicapped since early childhood and still subject to periods of debilitating pain. The book is witness to his deep-rooted faith as well as to his understanding of the Shroud.

Promote the Knowledge of Christ through the Shroud is in two parts: Part One, of five chapters, tells what we know about the Shroud and the Image. Part Two takes the form of spiritual reading, placing the Shroud alongside the Gospel narratives, from the bloody sweat of Gethsemane through the Passion to the Resurrection. The illustrations, in an Appendix, reproduce the photos, drawings and diagrams on exhibit in the Houses of Spiritual Exercises of the Center for Volunteers in Suffering, to which thousands of sick and handicapped go for retreats and meditations, better to understand the value of their sufferings in the work of Redemption.

It is an unusual approach in sindonic literature but entirely in line with the exhortations of Cardinal-Archbishop Ballestrero and the Popes who emphasize our role of human suffering as participation in the Passion of Christ, the marks of which are visible on the Shroud. We recall that during the Exposition of 1978, every Wednesday afternoon was reserved for the sick and handicapped brought in tourist busses from all over Europe; many in stretchers, many accompanied by nurses and doctors; there were also groups of the blind.

In 1986, Prof. Tessiore, assisted by a group of persons in his diocese, translated one of his small Shroud books into Braille characters. With the cooperation of the Apostolate Movement for the Blind, copies were sent gratis to all schools of the blind in Italy.

ALSO RECEIVED:

The August-September, 1986, issue of the Italian periodical *Pro Fratribus* was dedicated to the Holy Shroud. Besides a short preface by a bishop, there was a single article, by Stano Dusic, illustrated by the Author's repetitive, interpretive paintings of the Holy Face. We mention this issue because of a shocking falsification on the cover. There we see a color reproduction of the Agemian painting; above it, "It is He, it is the Lord", and below it these words: "The face of the Shroud obtained by the NASA computer".

The March-May 1987 Newsletter, *Pro Fratribus U.S.A.* carries on the front page the same Agemian painting identified thus: "The Risen Christ, developed from computer-enhanced photos of the Shroud by scientists of NASA".

We want to be charitable and think that the editors, the bishop and the author-artist really believed that the wizards of NASA had obtained this result on their computers. But someone, somewhere along the line, has perpetrated a fraud so villainous as to scandalize Bishop Pierre d'Arcis. His sincerity, at least, has never been questioned.

Congratulations to *Shroud News* on its seventh anniversary in this month of September. And to Rex Morgan, the man who is everywhere at once, for keeping the publication newsy and lively while setting up exhibits, organizing SEARCH (South East Asia Research Centre for the Holy Shroud), giving TV talk shows, writing books....

Collegamento pro Sindone, always stuffed with well-researched articles, reflects the continuing vitality of this Roman group, one of whom is Prof. Giorgio Tessiore.

Emmaus #9, April 1987, is another witness to the multiple activities in Rome: Mons. Ricci's "Course in Sindonology" puts new graduates into the field, equipped with official diplomas. This issue also describes an address given by Prof. Luigi Gonella and Sig. Giovanni Riggi to the Milan Press Club on the subject of STURP findings after 1978. An interesting article is Mons. Ricci's response to the *New York Times* of October, 1982. Ricci's methodical reply aims to correct errors prevalent before the *Times* article and still persistent today.

A subscriber in Hawaii has sent us a copy of an article published in the March 1987 issue of the ham-radio magazine, *Say You Saw It in CQ*. The article, by W. Edmund Hood, W2FEZ, is entitled, "How Old is the Shroud?" Nothing new for *Spectrum* readers, but the Author, of the University of Rochester, seems to be well-informed in current Shroud news in his discussion of carbon dating.

On May 25 of this year, the Centro Mexicano di Sindonologia celebrated its fourth anniversary. Despite the terrible earthquake of September 1986, which deprived the Centro of its lodgings and most of its possessions, activities have not diminished, as is amply apparent in the *Boletin*. Each issue, averaging about 20 pages typed single-space, bring carefully researched articles by the members.