

PROPOSAL FOR RESEARCH COUNCIL

Arising from a suggestion by Frs. Rinaldi and Otterbein, leading representatives of several of the major Shroud groups gathered openly and informally together just after the Paris Symposium to discuss the possible formation of a Turin Shroud International Research Council (a title yet to be firmly fixed). The meeting was convened by Ian Wilson and the intention is to foster a new unity between the different groups, to pool expertise and equipment, and to act as both a consultative and active research body to the Shroud's custodians. Although Professor Gonella was invited to this meeting, he declined to attend, and has since expressed disfavour to the whole idea.

Such an attitude is regrettable and seems to make the formation of a Council of this kind doubly necessary. It is intended that representation on the Council would be open to all serious research-oriented Shroud groups. The venture's further progress will be reported in future issues of this Newsletter.