

RECENTLY PUBLISHED

FREDERICK T. ZUGIBE: *The Cross and the Shroud: A Medical inquiry into the Crucifixion*. Paragon House, New York, 1988. 236 pp., illus., biblio., index

The first thing one notices about this revised edition of Dr. Zugibe's 1982 publication by Angelus Books is a more "serious" burgundy hardcover and a more dignified typeface and design. While this revision follows the 1982 version in chapter headings and subdivisions, some sections of the text have been expanded, a few parts eliminated. The Introduction no longer appears, and there is no mention of the author's previous diagnosis of Marfan's syndrome.

As before, Dr. Zugibe pays homage to Barbet but maintains that the pioneer researcher made many errors; for example, the bifurcation pattern of the bloodflow on the wrist, and the subsequent theory of alternate movements on the cross bringing on death by asphyxiation.

There are two interesting additions in the chapter, *A Medical Examiner Interprets the Shroud: "The Role of the Forensic Pathologist"* and *"Scripture and Jewish Burial Customs"*. Dr. Zugibe makes haste to point out that he is not a scripture expert, nevertheless some scriptural passages support the hypothesis that the body was washed before burial; however, he bases his conclusion concerning washing solely on scientific data. And so the question in the 1982 book: "Was Jesus Washed after Death?" is raised to an affirmation: "The Man of the Shroud was Washed after Death", demonstrated by before/after photographs of a wound in the arm of a corpse. The paragraph, "Washing of the Crucified" which appeared in an Appendix of the earlier book is therefore eliminated.

"Folding the Shroud" is dropped but a new subject has been considered: "Blood on the Hair", as postulated by Lavoie and Adler. Ten items are presented under "Theories of Image Formation", each followed by the author's Comments.

Many areas attest better organization of material, but I am not sure why the 14-point analysis of the image, published by Jackson *et al.* in 1984, is incorporated in the Comments evaluating McCrone's iron oxide argument. As a response to McCrone, of course, the analysis is unsurpassed, but its length and ponderous import might have deserved at least a modest subhead.

Reproductions are of better quality and several new illustrations, as well as Werner Bulst's Pollen Chart, are well chosen. There is a

nice shot of Gene Hoyas aiming the tip of his pointer at the blood-flow from the lance wound on a full-scale photo of the frontal image. In two full-page pictures, one is positive and, facing that, the negative film (right/left reversed for easier comparison).

Dr. Daniel Scavone, who reviewed the 1981 McDonagh edition for *Spectrum* (Dec. 1982, p. 38) will be glad to find that many of the "unforgivable errors in rendering Latin words" have been corrected. And forgiven.

D.C.

HENRI SEVIN: *L'Enigme des Templiers et le Saint-Suaire*, Collet, Bruxelles, 1988. pp. 168, illus., biblio., 4 appendices.

The Reverend Abbot Henri Sevin became interested in Templar history in 1962 when he was named curé of Hesbaye, in the diocese of Liège. Near his parish was the commandery of Haneffe, founded about 1260. The assignment to Hesbaye closed a period of twenty years in service as a Père Blanc (missionaries to Africa) in the Congo. Mobilised in 1944, he was stationed with the Belgian Congo Expeditionary Corps in Egypt, then Palestine.

In 1937, while he was a seminarian at Louvain, he read Barbet's book, *Les Cinq Plaies du Christ*; this so impressed him that when he visited Jerusalem on military leave, staying with the White Fathers at their monastery near the Temple, the young missionary obtained permission to spend a night in the Holy Sepulchre and there he promised to write a book about the Holy Shroud. And in 1978, when Ian Wilson's book appeared proposing that the Shroud may have been held by the Templars, Fr. Sevin reviewed his knowledge of the Arabs and his experiences in the Middle East, and he reflected that he could add some information that would be useful in further research. Thus was this book conceived.

It is a labor of devotion to the theory that links the Shroud to Templar history. Part I (40 pages) surveys Templar history; Part II, focussing on the trial, covers 112 pages. Those testimonies which speak of the "idol" or the "head" are emphasized. Part III is entitled "Le Saint-Suaire"; in 28 pages are presented the description, the itinerary and the scientific findings to demonstrate that the Shroud of Turin once lay in the Holy Sepulchre, and that eventually it was worshipped by the Templars.

Appendix I publishes the documents of the Commandery of Haneffe and gives a description of the architecture. There is a Table of the Popes from 1088 to 1352, followed by a chronology of events (1291-1316) leading to the suppression of the Order. The fourth Appendix gives a genealogical chart of the Herodian dynasty.

Since the book is intended for general readers, the text flows easily, unencumbered by notation paraphernalia. The author sets forth the admirable ideals of the Templar foundation, the Knights'

service to Christianity, their zeal for the defense of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, and their democratic organization, centuries ahead of the time. He shows also their faults and concedes that some, at least, of the Templars were guilty of some of the accusations brought against the Order by Philip IV of France.

Ardor and spirituality best describe the Abbé Sevin. These are the attributes of a true contemplative of the Shroud, one who has fathomed, in silence, the mystery and beauty of that Image and there, while silence hews new depths, finds assurance that a reason lies behind the eternal enigma of man.

DOROTHY CRISPINO

ALSO RECEIVED:

Emeroteca Sindonica for January-April 1988 presents a report on the Siracusa Congress, an intriguing inquiry into the accuracy of the traditional route of the Via Dolorosa, other studies and Shroud activities in Italy. The *Emeroteca* provides a unique service by reproducing current Italian news items and magazine articles, but the problem inherent in this type of publication lies in the necessary reduction of newsprint, in some cases so drastic as to become virtually invisible.

Dr. Rudolph Dichtl sent out his first Newsletter in August. Besides reporting on STURP activities, Dr. Dichtl proposes to copy important articles as they appear during each quarter, with extra Newsletters in case of "exciting news breaks". To subscribe, send \$10 to:

Rudolph J. Dichtl
Shroud Newsletter
41 Pineview Lane
Boulder, CO 80302-9414

In *30 Days* #5, September 1988, Luigi Gonella presents a five-page article, "One Shroud, a Thousand Mysteries", proving again that the Image on the Shroud is a challenge and a fascination which holds scientists captive. The problem science faces, the author states, is the identification of the physical and chemical nature of the image and the stains. While the information in this paper should not be new to Shroud students, the exposition reflects the clear, factual thinking of a scientist whose involvement in Shroud affairs has, indeed, helped to shape their course.

Rex Morgan continues to astound the world with the Brooks Institute Photographic Exhibition, recently in Calgary.

Also from Australia there is the newsletter from the group founded by Mrs. Pat Lovett. The paper has not yet found its style nor its mission, but given the enthusiasm of the Holy Shroud Society of Western Australia, it should, one day, come out booming.