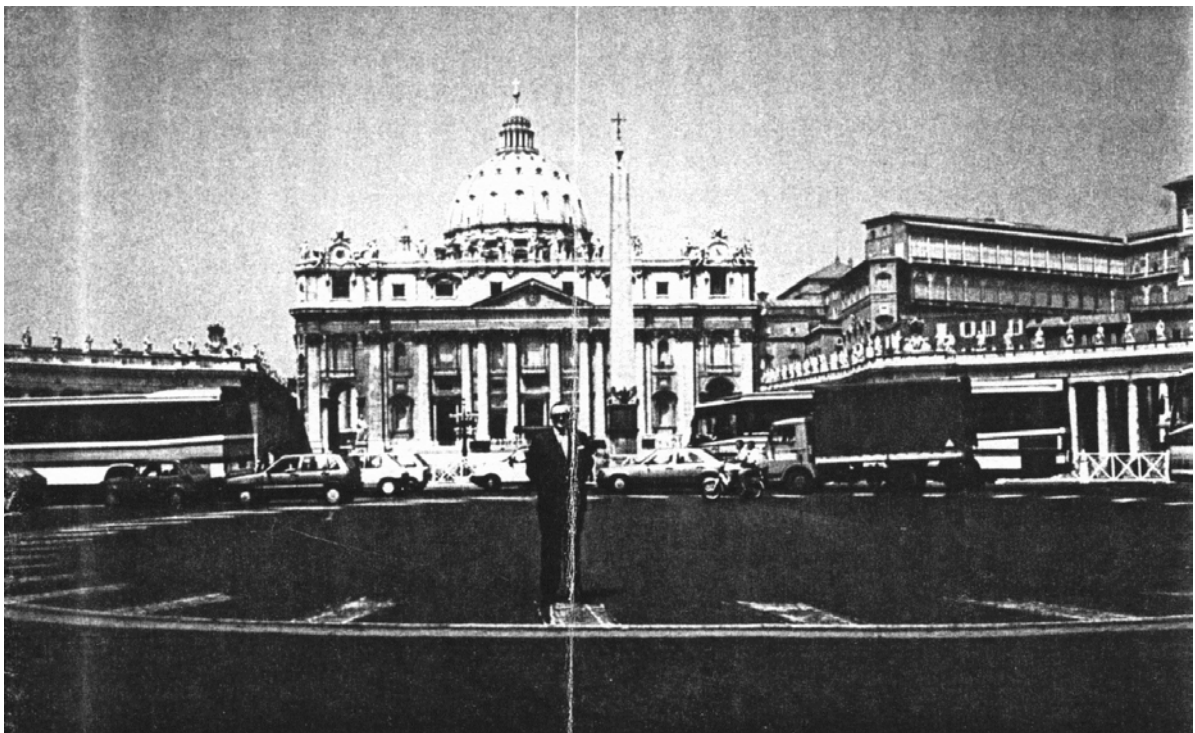


A NEWSLETTER ABOUT THE HOLY SHROUD OF TURIN
edited by REX MORGAN, Author of several books on the Shroud
Issue Number 77 JUNE 1993



THE FAMILIAR SCENE LOOKING TOWARDS THE GREAT
St. PETER'S BASILICA IN ROME, THE HOST CITY FOR THE
1993 INTERNATIONAL SHROUD SYMPOSIUM. THE FIRST
PART OF THE REPORT ON THE SYMPOSIUM IS IN THIS ISSUE

THE SHROUD CROWD CARRIES ON REGARDLESS

A comment inspired by the recent Rome Shroud Symposium

- Rex Morgan

There would be many good arguments these days to suggest that the discipline of Sindonology should have faded away like the image on the cloth is reportedly doing. Since the 1988 announcement at Turin that the cloth had been dated to the Middle Ages and the consequent fanfare by the world media that it was therefore a fake there has been almost no coverage of the topic as the opinion makers of the world set their sights on more awesome and divisive topics in their unbridled and successful efforts to bring the civilised world closer to anarchy and self destruction.

I recall saying shortly after 1988 that I believed it would take five years for a resurgence of public interest in the matter of the Shroud because, after five years of press silence, there is, of course, a new cycle of young reporters doing the writing who have never heard of it and therefore, in their naivete, they think it might be a new story; after all, five years is a fifth of the lives most reporters have lived so far. Thus we are beginning to see a little tentative coverage of the fact that the cloth, whatever it is, cannot be medieval if it is the same one which has appeared bearing its image time and time and time again throughout history for the past two thousand years and for the existence of which there is a mass of evidence artistic, literary and scientific.

Since the 1988 debacle the arguments have raged amongst the Shroud cognoscenti about why the carbon dating cannot have been correct. These arguments, as we all know, have ranged from outright (and perhaps outrageous) accusation of cloth sample substitution by the Cardinal, Dr Tite, Professor Gonella and Professor Riggi, to radiation from the Resurrection having interfered with the molecular structure of the cloth and all shades of possibilities in between.

True it is that one or two Shroudies dropped by the wayside after October 1988. Indeed one group that I know of in Western Australia even disbanded instantly at the news. Around the world however those with more resolve and perhaps more intelligence, continued their questioning and research into reasons why the carbon 14 process should have provided such an enigmatic

THE SHROUD CROWD CARRIES ON REGARDLESS (cont'd)

set of data. Others who have given years of their lives to one aspect or another of Shroud research, simply carried on regardless and, perhaps, in circumstances more conducive to quiet research, that is to say without a voracious media looking over their shoulders, simply continued to develop their theories and to extend the evidence for their hypotheses.

I suggested that there needed to be a greater emphasis on the historical side of sindonology and there has been good response to that call. The art historians and the document interpreters are coming up every month with some new aspect or more detailed confirmation of their pursuit of the truth of this great mystery.

When the French announced their third International Shroud Symposium more than a year ago to be held in Rome there was some speculation about its likely success or attraction. The fact that about two hundred delegates from all over the world made the effort to be there indicates a very strong continuing interest in the subject. And, let's face it, there has to be a very strong reason for going to a place like Rome in the middle of June. In fact, one of the French group's promoters in America, Michael Minor, headed his flyer announcing the arrangements to Americans with, "Why go to Rome?" Upon reflection one smiles weakly and asks the same question.

True it is, too, that some of sindonology's greats have died in the past few years but there seems to be appearing a new generation of successors. There is also that extraordinary cohort of men and women in their seventies and eighties who, with minds as sharp as ever, are still involved in their work for Shroud studies and many of them still turn up to conferences. These are the ones we have to watch and guard and to ensure, as I keep telling them all, that they are training successors to step into their places when they inevitably pass away from their mortal endeavours.

So it was encouraging to see at the Rome conference the vastly varying corpus of men and women of all ages and many nationalities and from all disciplines, scientific and non-scientific. There were many of the big names there balanced by many new learners; the repetition of a lot of old stuff was balanced by many new insights; the showmen (and women) were balanced by those with quiet confidence; the dull non-orators were balanced by the expert visual and verbal presenters; the crackpots were balanced by those

THE SHROUD CROWD CARRIES ON REGARDLESS (cont'd)

with open minds; the social parasites were balanced by those who came to learn something more than new names to drop; the Bible bashers were balanced by those with a non partisan view; the self-promoters were balanced by those who simply wanted modestly to share their findings; the muddlers and the paper shufflers were balanced by those who were properly prepared and who had contingency plans against the inevitable European farce-like failings of the conference infrastructure.

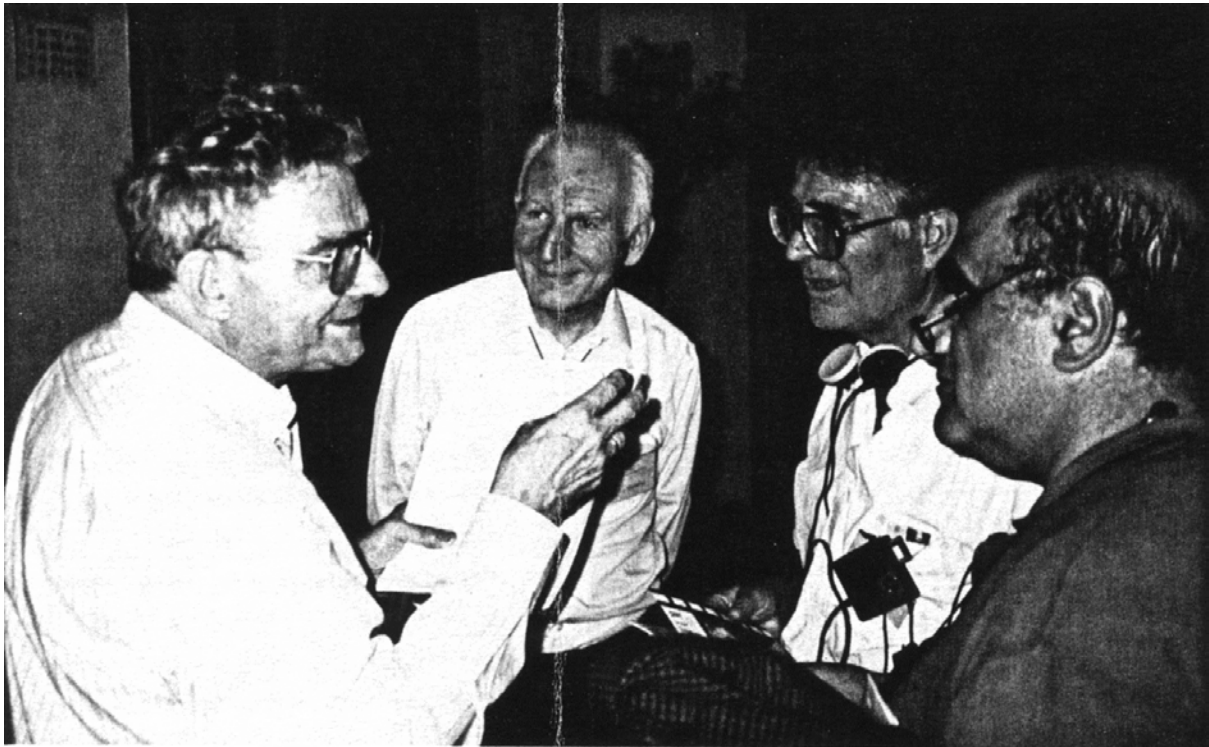
The fact that almost every Italian newspaper carried a major story about the conference on its first day is a significant development. This was inspired by the headline catching theory of a Russian delegate and ensured by the influence and work of Dr Orazio Petrosillo. Petrosillo, co-author with Emanuela Marinelli of *La Sindone: Un Enigma alla Prova della Scienza*, a remarkable book which, unbelievably, has yet to appear in English, is a highly qualified scholar, top journalist for *Il Messaggero*, and the Pope's special correspondent whenever His Holiness is away from Rome. Orazio is also, uncharacteristically, always calm and collected, has a wry sense of humour and could be described as the Mr Nice Guy of European Shroudies. Yes, the fact that newspapers worldwide took up some of his wire stories of the symposium suggests that press barons might be thinking again about their too hasty dismissal of the Shroud in 1988. Once they realise that, like the antics of the British Royal Family, there is good media mileage for an insatiable public which likes controversy, the subject of the Shroud might once again take its rightful place as news of significance in world affairs.

Despite its physical constraints and organisational defects the 1993 International Shroud Symposium demonstrated that interest in the subject is increasing rather than decreasing and that it is still a legitimate subject for study. It demonstrated that men and women of all ages, backgrounds, nationalities and religions are prepared to go to considerable expense to meet each other and exchange Shroud experience. The fact that huge tables were laden with Shroud publications new and old, and were heavily patronised, demonstrates the avid desire for information. The fact that many non-experts were present as well as members of the general public of several countries, indicates a continuing concern for the pursuit of knowledge of the Shroud. The fact that the Pope's Vicar General, Bishop Peter C Van Lierde, attended several hours of the conference and was prepared to make a statement that he believed the Shroud to be genuine shows that there is a real interest from the Vatican behind the official view of taking no position on it and the guarded

THE SHROUD CROWD CARRIES ON REGARDLESS (cont'd)

comments made by anyone else highly placed in the Roman Church.

Despite the disappearance of some of the Shroud journals, the curtailment of others and the likely failure of some which are still struggling on, it seems, then, that Sindonology is very much alive and well. I am also glad that, along with the Italian *Collegamento Sindone*, *Shroud News* now seems to be one of the very few regular surviving publications about the Shroud, in any language, and this is being realised and appreciated by more and more people throughout the English speaking world and elsewhere as was frequently conveyed to me at the Rome Symposium.



Four of the Rome Symposium's significant speakers, 1 to r, Remi Van Haelst (Belgium), Prof Fr Heinrich Pfeiffer (Germany), Prof Gino Zaninotto (Italy), Dr Tarquino Ladu (Sicily)

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM

The Third International Symposium on the Shroud of Turin was organised by the French based International Centre for Studies of the Shroud of Turin (CIELT) on 10, 11 and 12 June 1993 at the Domus Mariae, Via Aurelia 481, Rome, Italy.

On 8th June a major press conference had been arranged and some twenty or so correspondents assembled in the press conference hall of *La Stampa*. This beautiful venue with its marble floor, silk lined walls and exceptional light and sound equipment provided the perfect beginning for what, with such standards, looked like being an outstanding week. This occasion was used to provide the French organisers with an opportunity to forecast what the conference would be about. Briefings were given by Dr Orazio Petrosillo, journalist and Shroud author; Countess Maria Grazia Siliato, the official delegate of CIELT in Rome; Dr Andre Van Cauwenberghe, the organiser of the Conference; and Dr Arnaud-Aaron Upinsky, President of the Paris Euclidian Institute. During Upinsky's address it was notable that Dr Van Cauwenberghe and Countess Siliato conducted their own conversation behind their hands which clearly and properly annoyed Upinsky. But in due course the trump card of the French, namely Professor Dimitri Kouznetsov, was produced.

As it happened, this conference, through the exceptional work of Roman author Petrosillo in cabling the stories around the world, led to more publicity for the Shroud than we have seen for a long time, especially in Italy where about ten major papers carried the story next day. And the story was that of Russian Kouznetsov who subsequently presented a paper describing his work which shows basically that the interpretation of the C14 data by Damon's team was fundamentally incorrect having used an invalid series of mathematical assumptions. We are aware that several Shroud researchers have been saying the same thing since 1988, especially Remi Van Haelst of Belgium, but it took a Russian, with the media appeal of leaping from behind where the Iron Curtain used to be, from what was an anti-Christian country for most of this century, to attract any publicity. The Kouznetsov theory, described later in this report, basically says that the correct re-working of Damon's C14 data will give a date for the cloth of not less than 1,900 years old.



At the Press conference in Rome: Dr Orazio Petrosillo (Italy), Prof Dimitri Kouznetsov (Russia), Countess Maria Grazia Siliato (Italy), Dr Andre van Cauwenberghe (France), Prof Arnaud Aaron Upinsky (France)



Prof Alan Adler contemplates the Conference

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)

The Conference begins

The first day of the conference began with the usual introductory messages and the late start of the session causing every speaker to be pressed and harassed. My comments on the appalling physical conditions and conference infrastructure are made in a separate report. The day's lectures had been re-arranged, substitutions had occurred, additions and deletions were made, all since the printing of the official programme. It struck one as odd that the organisers did not know who was going to speak or in what order after such a long lead time. In the event, following the introduction of the "moderators", Countess Maria Grazia Siliato, Mrs Dorothy Crispino and M Philippe Bourcier de Carbon, introductory treatises were given by de Carbon and Upinsky. Upinsky pointed out that the authorities of the British Museum (with whom the French have been having a running battle since the Museum's arrogant exhibition of a picture of the Shroud in an exhibit of "fakes") were absent which seemed significant. He also emphasised that the assembled company was well qualified to discuss and study the problems associated with the Shroud and hoped that the world media would take note of the proceedings "We have to try to be effective and efficient in our work," he said ... and the first speaker was Mrs Rebecca Jackson.

Rebecca Jackson

The name Jackson properly strikes awe into those of the Shroud world on account of Dr John's remarkable work on and for the Shroud over so many years. His new wife, Jewish Rebecca, had already caused a media sensation in the United States with her theory about the Shroud being the tablecloth from the last supper (a matter regarded with wry amusement by many). A similar awe had apparently been struck into the hearts of the French on this occasion so that Mrs Jackson got top billing in place of Professor Zaninotto on Day 1 and she also got to speak for more than forty minutes after everyone else had been reduced to 15. After a long performance trying to get the slide projector to work properly, which further delayed the conference and gave Mrs Jackson a very poor psychological start (the audience already in a negative mood and ho-humming about the Italian equipment and the French organisers), she began her discourse entitled, "The Holy Shroud in Hebrew" and concerning her study of the Jewish elements relevant to the Shroud.



Dr Rebecca Jackson (USA)



Robert Babinet (France)



Bernard Ribay (France)



Dr Gino Zaninotto (Italy)

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)

These began with a photo tour of extracts from her own family albums to demonstrate certain aspects of the Jewishness of her grandfather's facial characteristics. We got a good bit of Rebecca's personal life history as, in a very high speed and chatty presentation, she told us that, "After three decades of research applied to the Shroud, the Man in the Shroud is, in my opinion Jewish. After 45 years of being Jewish I believe I should know what a Jew looks like," although no-one in the audience had challenged her qualifications on this point. With interjections from husband John at the back of the hall, "Rebecca, try to speak slower," "Talk closer to the microphone," she then described her thirty years work in such terms as: "This is a picture of my grandfather. Now look very carefully -- I don't know if you can see. My grandfather had a long head, look at the long head, look at this, the high nose - very similar to the Man in the Shroud. This is my mother, by the way, and my grandmother ... " And, to add to the perplexity of the viewers, "Now this was fun doing: this is me on my wedding day. Next slide please." She followed with pictures of her own face darkened to show its similarities with negroid features. The delivery went on to discuss matters including the legality of fabric composition, Jewish laws and customs, burial practices, commandments pertaining to personal grooming and so on. After thirty minutes, moderator Upinsky invited her to sit down but instead, "Let me jump to the historical part, then," and, interestingly, "There is a strong emphasis within Jewish and other Semitic cultures to be modest ... " One looks forward to reading the printed version of this contribution to Shroud studies.

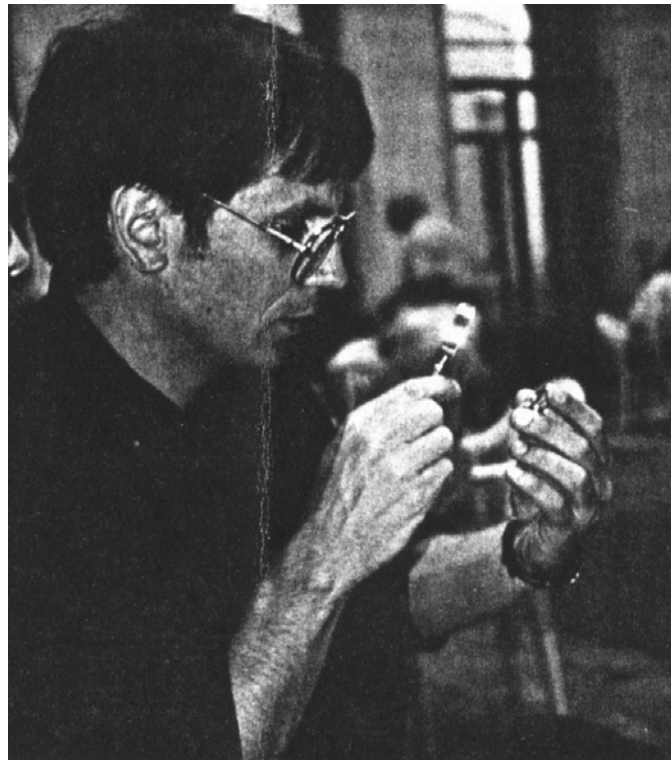
Babinet, Ribay and Dubarle

Mr Robert Babinet, auditor-linguist, whatever that is, in his paper, "The Shroud of Jesus in the Gospels" took us back to the original Greek version of St John to discuss and build upon the implications of "othonia" and "sindon" and "Soudarion" following the work the late Bishop John Robinson had done twenty years ago. This was followed by a theological discourse, "The study of John 20, 3 - 8" by **Bernard Ribay** who argued that John saw something very significant in the tomb.

A paper by an absent author was then presented. This was **Father André-Marie Dubarle's** "The Homily of Gregory the Referendary" which described the work of Gregory and its significance in adding to the theory of Wilson that the image could not have been made by hands.



The well stocked tables of Shroud literature manned by Alberto Di Giglio and his helpers from the Rome Shroud exhibition



Revd Bro Joe Marino of USA examines a discussion item

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)**Gino Zaninotto**

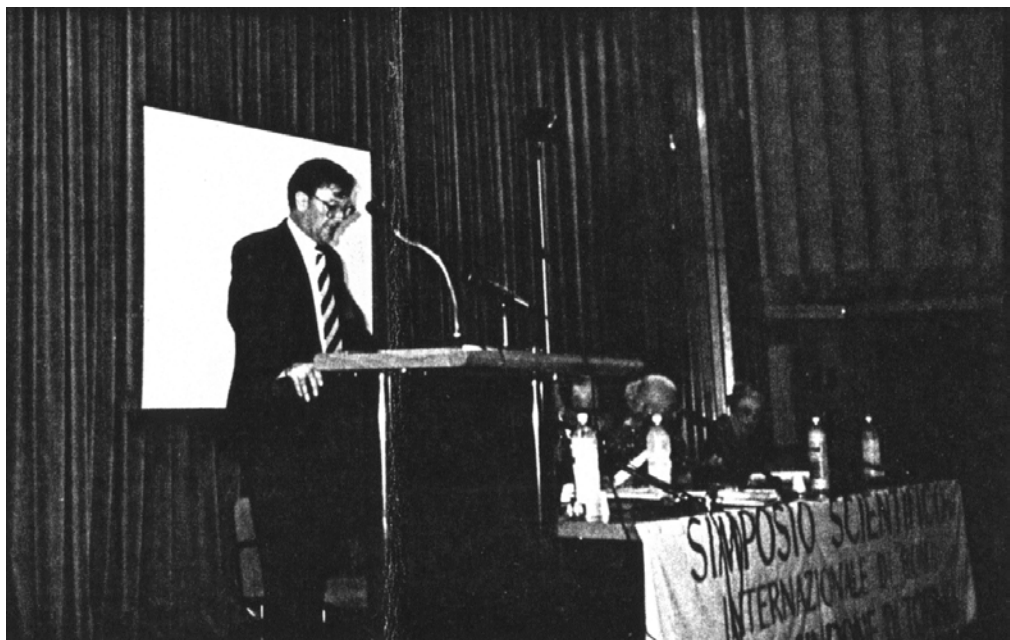
Despite a fuss trying to get the slide projector working which took four people to achieve, well known Shroud expert and indefatigable researcher Professor Gino Zaninotto is always a welcome speaker at any international Shroud gathering. Over the years he has made some remarkable discoveries during his searches through documents in the world's great libraries. His paper, "The Edessa Image, imprint of the entire body of Christ - New confirmation from a Latin text of the XI Century" proved to be a very interesting account of documents he has found from several centuries about this period which give greater credence to his important studies.

Rex Morgan

Although the audience was becoming a mite restless at the end of a mammoth uninterrupted session of more than three and a half hours, my paper, "New Evidence for the Earliest portrait of Christ" was well received. Despite its reduction almost to key sentences which one hoped were translated effectively and the rapid projection of a handful of slides I was able to convey something of the remarkable discovery of a portrait of Christ in a now publicly inaccessible catacomb chamber by English researcher Sylvia Bogdanescu. This work has been occupying my interest since the publication of my book on Thomas Heaphy whose work (and mine) had been ridiculed by Wilson and other Shroud experts. With the intensive research by Bogdanescu and my own visit to the secret chamber two days before the symposium I was able to present evidence for the existence of a portrait which, it was said, Heaphy invented; and evidence of numerous dating errors in the catacombs over the years to show that this portrait, an unusual profile, very likely dates to the end of the first century. It is therefore, I claim, the earliest known portrait of Christ, was possibly painted by someone who had seen the man, and bears a strong resemblance to the Man in the Shroud suggesting that both images are of the same person. There has been no argument against the theory yet, although I have invited this, and rather, several Shroud experts have raised whole new areas of study relevant to this work. I understand from the organisers of the Symposium that the paper is due to be published in the proceedings later this year.

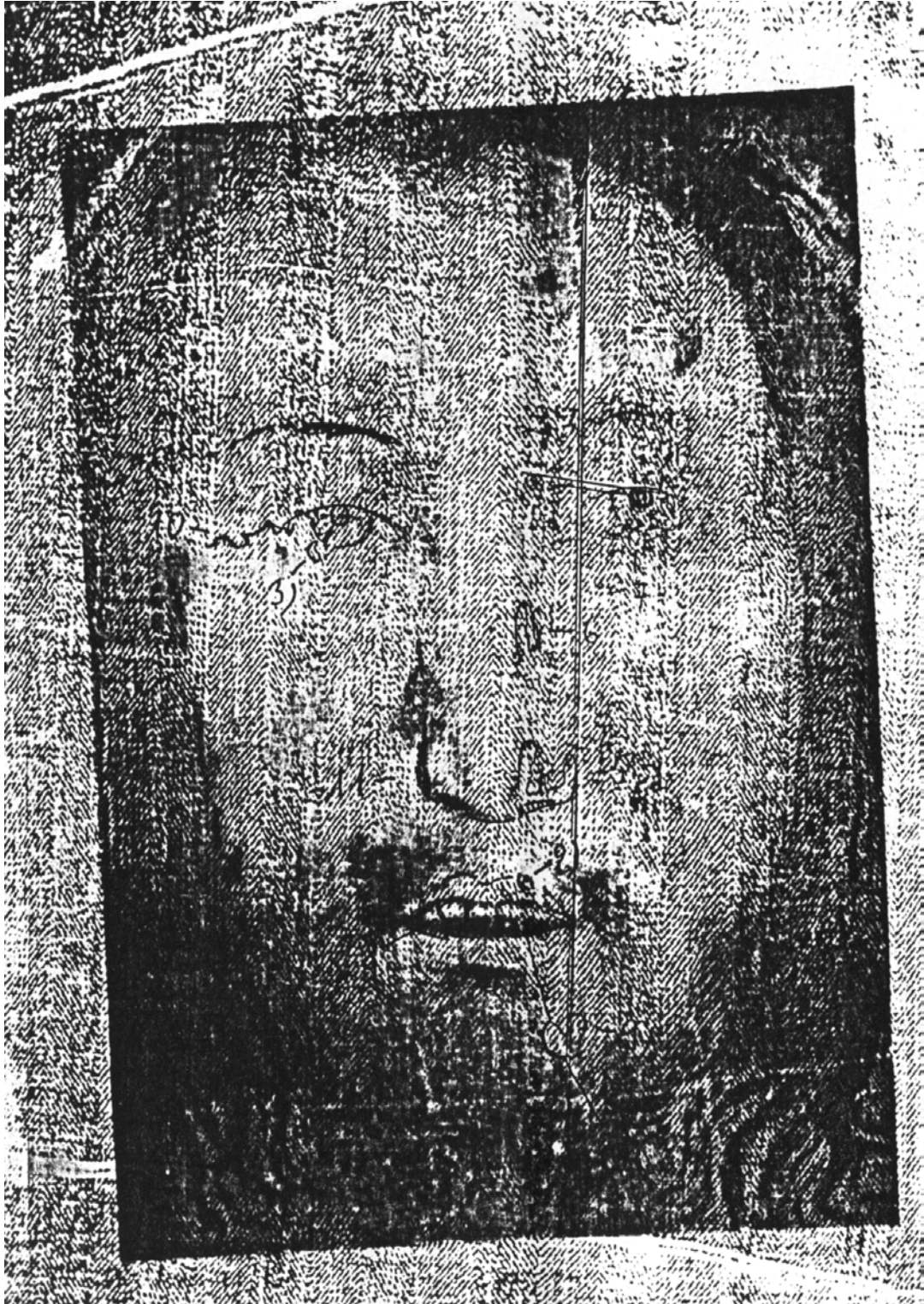


Rex Morgan (Australia)



Mr Philippe Bourcier de Carbon (France)

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)



Overlay of the Veil of Manoppello and the Turin Shroud showing congruencies

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)**Blandina Schlomer**

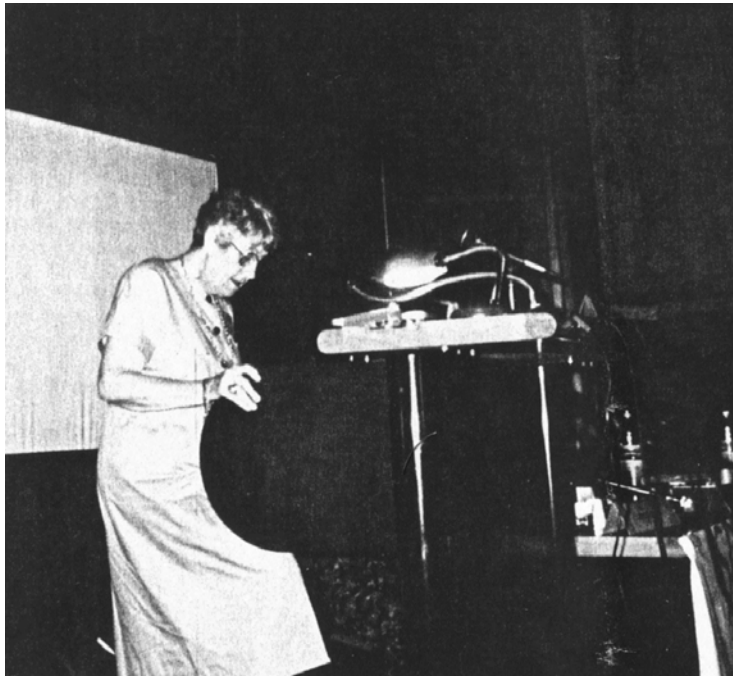
The next participant, Sister Blandina Paschalis Schlomer, Iconographer, of Germany, was an absentee and so her paper was read by Dr Raffard de Brienne. Entitled "The Veil of Manoppello and its Links with Representations of Christ in Arts and with the Shroud of Turin", dealt with the sister's superimposition of seven icons of Christ from various centuries onto the Veil of Manoppello image. She then demonstrated its points of congruency with the Shroud and discussed the relationships between numerous other representations of Christ in the art of East and West.

Fr Heinrich Pfeiffer

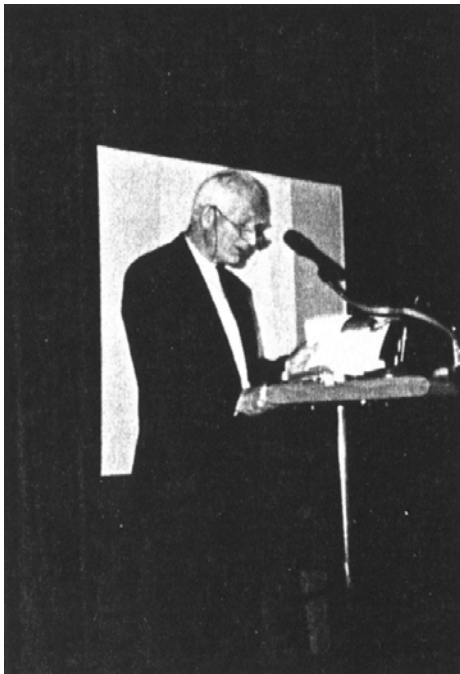
Following the paper of his colleague Schlomer the highly regarded German scholar, Fr Heinrich Pfeiffer, gave his paper, "The Shroud, the Manoppello, the Mandyllion, the Camulina and the Veronica" in which he referred to the second volume he has published in collaboration with Bulst and Schlomer. After a long discussion with those attempting to operate the slide projector and having seen slides pass our vision with the speed of machine gun bullets Fr Pfeiffer launched into his very interesting description of the Manoppello Veil at Abruzzi, a transparent piece of cloth with an image of Christ which can be seen from both sides. While this was going on someone tried to shut the only open door at the back of the hall saying, "We have some people doesn't see," to which I replied, "You will soon have some people doesn't breathe." Pfeiffer described his meticulous examination of every thread of the Manoppello cloth to come to the conclusion that there is no pigment on it. "The image seems to be a luminous shadow and no photo reproduces it properly." He told us of its authentic history and compared it with the other cloths in his title. He concluded that in these images we have an authentic portrait of Christ.

Jean-Marie Clercq

Dr Clercq presented a fascinating description of his work on Byzantine coins under the title, "Byzantine Numismatics and the Shroud of Christ." He has studied more than 2,000 coins minted during a period of a thousand years whose busts of Christ were copied from the Mandyllion and Shroud and show the same characteristics as many icons. He concluded that the Shroud has clearly influenced many of these and their peculiarities often coincide



Mlle Yvonne Bongert (France)



Prof Fr Heinrich Pfeiffer
(Germany)



Prof Arnaud Aaron Upinsky
(France)

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)

with known movements and historical information about the Shroud. It suggests that the Shroud was in evidence throughout the Byzantine period.

Professor Yvonne Bongert

This engaging speaker, after referring to iconography of the second century in the catacombs, then gave us a full description of the traditional portraits through history and their representational features. She also based much of her observation on extensive studies of coin collections in Britain and Europe concluding that there are so many portraits of Christ clearly derived from the Shroud that its dating to the 14th century is impossible.

Prof Jerome Lejeune

In a paper entitled "The Shroud of Lier and the Pray codex" Lejeune gave a description of the rarely noticed Lier copy of the Shroud by Durer. He compared this with the Pray manuscript and made important comparisons of the burn marks and demonstrated by folding how precisely they were caused. He also showed that the details on the Belgian Lier copy correspond exactly with the Shroud.

Don Luigi Fossati

Don Fossati was not able to be at the conference. He is one of the Shroud's most diligent researchers and has published his monumental catalogue of Shroud copies through the ages and the details of all Shroud expositions. In this paper, "Le Memoir of Pierre d'Arcis and the writings of Clement VII," read by Dorothy Crispino, Fossati describes a detailed study of the documents of this precise period when de Charny, whose documentation has disappeared, was involved with the Shroud. He pointed out that Chevalier's later assumptions of forgery were based on a totally incorrect reading of the documents. Fossati describes numerous original letters and documents of Clement VII and after exhaustive examination of their words and phrases concludes that they do nothing to advance the possibility of fraudulence and, in fact, shed much light on the problem of the Shroud's authenticity.

Abbe Rene Laurentin

Abbe Laurentin was obliged to apologise for the speed of his delivery owing



Professor Alan Adler and Countess Maria Grazia Siliato



Baroness Ilona Farkas (Rome), Rev Kim Dreisbach (USA), Isabel Piczek (USA)

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)

to the restriction to fifteen minutes presentation time. He decided he could only summarise his paper, "The historicity of Jesus based on Roman, Jewish and Christian texts."

Maria Grazia Siliato

After a well deserved short break for fresh air the conference reconvened to the strident tones of Countess Maria Grazia Siliato. She always arrives on stage with a presence which inspires awe and if any camera should flash her automatic reaction is to give a royal wave. She prefaced her delivery by announcing that His Eminence Cardinal Ratzinger had sent his blessing on the conference and brought greetings from other impressive names in the Vatican. Despite the time restraints in operation she then repeated the announcements in French. Her paper, "The state of conservation of the Shroud," told us much of the technical description of the Shroud, of which everyone was aware, and then a commentary on the various effects of its being folded and creased and the consequent dispersion of particles all over it. She set the scene for the following serious paper by Adler and Schwalbe. The argument, often heard in Rome, that Siliato is the most successful plagiarist in the Shroud world may be correct. This can be rationalised, however, by saying that some of the Shroud researchers are themselves such pathetic speakers and presenters that they need the broad sweep of Siliato's melodramatic delivery, her riveting theatricality, and ability to be the unavoidable grandiose focus of attention to emphasise the work that others have done. Siliato ought to be President of Italy and she might bring some semblance of stability to that ungovernable parliament. If I were struck down at a conference before delivering a paper there is no-one I should more like to have read it for me than she.

Indeed, during the conference an entourage led by Siliato and Cauwenberghe made a stately entrance with Archbishop Van Lierde, the Pope's Vicar General Emeritus. Although the Archbishop was there purely at the private invitation of an American researcher who has been honoured by the Vatican, and not as claimed by the French at their invitation, and was there as a private citizen, much fuss was made over his presence. Indeed, at one time, the fawning French dragged him onto the stage where he therefore could not see the slide screen but made sure they went off and sat somewhere else with a good view. As someone observed it was just as well that the organisers did not notice two other important officials also there at private invitation.

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)

Dr Alan Adler

Dr Alan Adler, one of the world's topmost blood specialists, is always a remarkable addition to any Shroud presentation if one is fortunate enough to be able to get him. In his typically laid back fashion wherein he says exactly what he thinks without any humbug, pomposity or obsequy, he gave one of the three or four outstanding presentations of the conference. As a Jew he is always good value at a meeting of those who are widely (though incorrectly) regarded by the world media to be only Christian and strongly religiously biased towards the Shroud. He was also the first presenter of the conference to think of dedicating his paper to the memory of Father Peter Rinaldi who had died earlier this year and was regarded as the greatest Shroud research advocate and diplomat of the century. Having commented on the abysmal performance of the slide projectors he wisely confined his visual aids to the overhead projector which seemed to operate.

His paper, prepared in collaboration with Dr Larry Schwalbe, "Conservation of the Shroud of Turin," was a masterpiece of plain fact and straight talk. He emphasised the need for an immediate conservation program for the Shroud saying that the first thing that had to be determined in order to know what one is trying to preserve is whether the image is a painting or not. Obviously one applies different preservation techniques to a painting. He agreed, as does anyone else who knows anything about the Shroud, that it is not a painting and suggests that a constant monitoring process should be invented and set up to indicate how fast the image is disappearing, which it is. Adler then gave details of eleven areas of problems of conservation of the Shroud which will have to be addressed. These were under the headings of: Ionizing Radiation, Non-ionizing radiation, Mechanical stress, Humidity, Pressure, Temperature, Biology, Chemistry, Debris, Protection and Archiving.

He concludes that to minimise the risk of all kinds of radiation the Shroud should be contained in a glass structure, perpendicular to the earth's surface, and in the dark. The cloth should be properly supported to avoid mechanical stress in an anti-vibration container. Investigation would have to determine the optimum humidity conditions to be maintained as this is not known at present and to maintain constant pressure it should be in a sealed container. Temperature variation can affect all the foregoing and a decision must be made about what chemicals really are on the cloth in order to determine its

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)

optimum temperature especially relating to the chemical changes in acidic structures with which the Shroud abounds. A thorough microbiological study should be made to determine all the organisms present on the cloth. Restriction of airborne pollutants is a serious immediate problem.

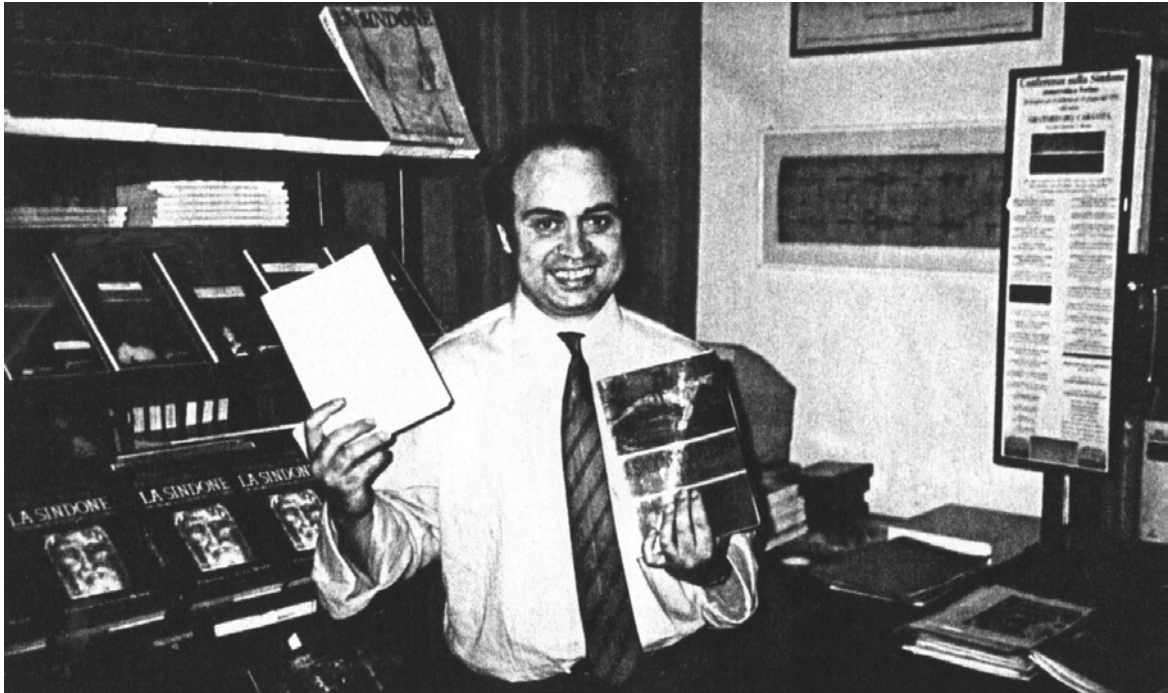
Decisions will have to be made about what existing debris to remove or leave. The design of any display facility will have to take into account numerous factors and an optimum solution will be to keep it deep underground. Proper recording of the Shroud as it is, is essential since the risks of its destruction in the modern world are great.

The conclusion to Adler and Schwalbe's paper is: "A number of serious issues affecting the conservation and preservation of the Shroud of Turin have been raised in this article. Problems affecting the cloth itself are not really pressing. Less assurance can be given for matters concerning the stability of the body image; some studies should be initiated now if some anticipated problems are to be avoided in the near future. However, the blood images present a different story -- the damage here is already extensive and requires immediate attention. History will hold those of us interested in this remarkable cloth responsible for recognising that now is the time to initiate such a broad and comprehensive program."

It is interesting to note that the Shroud appears at the moment not to be the beneficiary of any single suggestion of this paper. So important is this work that *Shroud News* is seeking permission to reproduce the whole paper.

Maloney

Paul Maloney gave a specialised paper on a matter of his special expertise, "Should the Shroud be vacuumed? A Question for Conservation." Maloney has, under his care, all the pollen samples taken from the Shroud by Dr Max Frei whose incomplete work on them shed considerable light on the history of the cloth. Maloney raised a number of questions about the efficacy of vacuum cleaning to remove particulate matter and, since the discovery by Riggi that there are mineral coated pollen grains on the cloth, the strong view is that no such vacuum cleaning should take place.



Alberto Di Gi Giglio in his Shroud material shop in Rome



Part of the Rome Shroud exhibit

THE ROME SYMPOSIUM (cont'd)

Dickinson

Mr Ian Dickinson, a relative newcomer to Shroud conferences as a speaker, gave the first of his two papers, "Communication for Conservation." In this he argued more from a lay point of view than had Adler, for proper controls of physical conditions, absolute security from both natural and human risks to the object and access for non-destructive tests and examination. He advocated a full photographic record, as did Adler, and finished his recommendations by saying that, "The Shrine of the Holy Shroud must be accessible to Christians and they should not be obstructed or prevented by 'tourist' abuse - the Shroud is not a museum or commercial artefact."

Maroni and Bettinelli

The paper of Drs Mario Maroni and Maurizio Bettinelli, "The Age of the Shroud and a Proposal for a Photocolorimetric Control," reported experiments they have conducted which show that under conditions of extreme heat, ancient linens give a much different carbon age result indicating that the fire at Chambéry must have considerably affected the carbon datings of the cloth. As part of the preservation techniques ultimately to be employed these authors argued for the use of a photocolorimetric survey in order to compare the results with the data taken from the Shroud in 1978.

Thus concluded a very long day's work.

Next Issue

In the next issue of *SN* I shall bring reports covering the second day's activity during which another twenty-one presentations were made including such important papers as that of the Russian scientist and Isabel Piczek's masterpiece as well as the new proposals of Dr Garza-Valdes and Upinsky's important demonstration of logic applied to the data.

Shroud News began in 1980 when Rex Morgan, author of three books on the subject of the Holy Shroud (*Perpetual Miracle*, *Shroud Guide*, and *The Holy Shroud and the Earliest Paintings of Christ*) started putting together a few notes about current developments in Sindonology (the study of the Shroud of Turin) for a small circle of interested people in his home country of Australia. He didn't expect it to go beyond a few issues.

The bulletin now reaches subscribers all over the world and it is written and produced and the information disseminated more quickly than most news-sheets of a similar kind or the more prestigious Shroud publications. It contains information, news, articles and illustrations gathered from sources of Shroud study worldwide through Rex Morgan's extensive network of personal connections with what has been described as the "Shroud Crowd".

Rex Morgan is a frequent traveller overseas and this has given him the opportunity to keep abreast of latest developments in Shroud study and research at first hand. He was present at the world media preview of the Shroud itself in August 1978 in Turin, Italy and has met with numerous Shroud researchers in many countries. His quest for Shroud information became, as he described it, "a passionate hobby". He brought the world-famous Photographic Exhibition created by Brooks Institute, California, to Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Macau and Canada and during those tours it attracted more than 600,000 visitors. The exhibition was subsequently donated by Brooks Institute to the non-profit making organisation, The South East Asia Research Centre for the Holy Shroud (SEARCH) of which Morgan is President. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the USA based Association of Scientists and Scholars International for the Shroud of Turin (ASSIST) and was a member of the scientific team which conducted environmental experiments in a Jerusalem tomb in 1986 (The Environmental Study of the Shroud in Jerusalem). He has made several original contributions to the research of the Shroud, has presented papers at international conferences, has written many articles and given numerous broadcasts and telecasts on the subject in many countries.

The list of *Shroud News* subscribers continues to increase internationally and the publication has been described many times as one of the best available. Its production is obviously privately subsidised as we still request a subscription in Australia of only \$6 for six issues posted. *Shroud News* comes out six times per year. The USA subscription is \$US 6 (posted surface mail) or \$US 12 (posted airmail). Postage to other countries varies. ALL back issues are available at \$1 (US or Aust) each plus postage charges except the famous 50th issue which is \$3 plus post.

Please encourage those of your acquaintance to take out their own subscription rather than borrow your copies since the more genuine subscribers we have the more we can improve the bulletin and the longer it is likely to survive.

All information and opinion in this newsletter is published in good faith. It is edited (and mainly written) by Rex Morgan and published by:

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