

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

*SHROUD SPECTRUM INTERNATIONAL*, quarterly publication of the Indiana Center for Shroud Studies, issues no. 21, 22 and 23

Editor Dorothy Crispino continues in fine style with these latest issues, which feature valuable translations into English of articles by Dr. Pierre Barbet "Proof of the Authenticity of the Shroud in the Bloodstains"; a fascinating account by Monsignor Adolfo Barberis of a secret chamber built beneath Turin's Royal Palace to protect the Shroud following the earliest air raids at the end of the First World War; and a most illuminating translation of chapter 16 of a guidebook to the Shroud written at the end of the 16th century by Archbishop Alfonso Paleotto of Bologna. This latter shows that Paleotto in his early time recognized the Shroud to indicate that Jesus had been nailed through the wrists, and directly suspected "that the Romans would nail the hands in a way that they would sustain the body". The research of Dr. Pierre Barbet was thus anticipated by more than three centuries.

*ANTIQUITY* 61 [1987], pp. 98 ff.

Dr. Gerald MacKenzie, a recently joined member of the B.S.T.S., has drawn attention to some recent useful articles on radiocarbon dating as published in the archaeological journal *Antiquity*, no. 61. These are: Gordon W. Pearson "How to cope with calibration", describing the latest thinking on the calibration curve by which the irregularities in  $C_{14}$  are calculated; E.T. Hall "The Courtrai chest re-examined", showing the close agreement between a radiocarbon dating and dendrochronological (tree-ring) dating of a mediaeval chest in New College Oxford; B.S. Ottaway "Radiocarbon: where we are and where we need to be", reviewing the difficulties this field of science still faces; and Robin Dennell "Accelerator dating: the first years reviewed", assessing the degree of reliability already achieved by the new AMS (Accelerated mass spectrometry) method of radiocarbon dating as developed by, among others, Oxford University's Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art.