

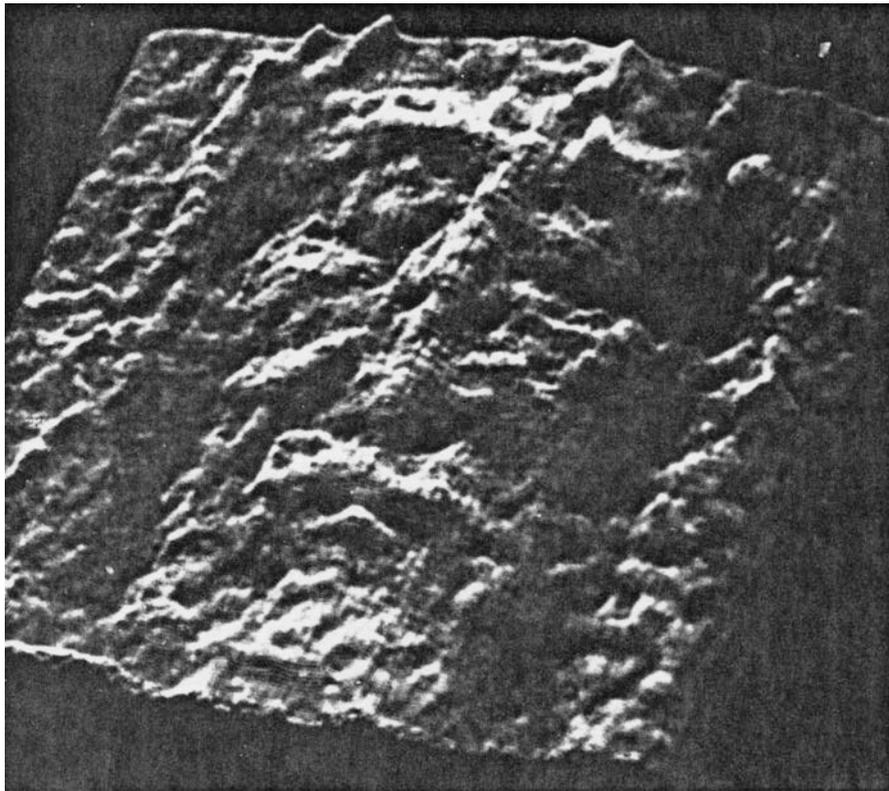
SHROUD NEWS

A NEWSLETTER ABOUT THE HOLY SHROUD OF TURIN
By REX MORGAN - Author of PERPETUAL MIRACLE



Issue No. 14

25th June 1982



ONE OF A SERIES OF COMPUTERISED THREE DIMENSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE FACE IMAGE OF THE HOLY SHROUD. THESE PHOTOGRAPHS WERE MADE BY PROFESSOR GIOVANNI TAMBURELLI OF TURIN WHOSE RESEARCH BASED ON THE ORIGINAL METHODS DISCOVERED BY AMERICAN SPACE SCIENTISTS JACKSON, JUMPER AND MOTTERN, INDICATE A CONSIDERABLE PRESENCE OF DROPS OF BLOOD ON THE FACE WHICH CORRELATE WITH HISTORICAL EVIDENCE OF INJURIES TO JESUS CHRIST. A DESCRIPTION OF TAMBURELLI'S WORK WILL APPEAR LATER IN SHROUD NEWS.

EDITORIAL

Apologies are again due to my readers for the absence of an issue of SHROUD NEWS in May. Although there is no undertaking to produce it monthly I have tried to do so. During a trip to Europe last month I was, however, able to undertake activities which have resulted in a wealth of further information on the Holy Shroud and which should keep me busy writing it up for our newsletter for some time.

King Umberto

The bad news is that I had an appointment to be received by the Shroud's owner, His Majesty King Umberto of Italy, who now lives in Portugal but for reasons which would bore SHROUD NEWS readers I did not get to Portugal as planned on a flight from Geneva. Suffice it to say that after technical breakdowns in mid-air over France, the nature of which was never divulged to the paying passengers, and after four or five hours incarceration back at Geneva airport, and having discovered that the Air Portugal flight of twenty-four hours previously from Geneva to Lisbon didn't get there either, and having had my loss of confidence in that airline confirmed the next day by discovering that the flight still hadn't left eighteen hours later, I can only say that Air Portugal has nothing to recommend it. I finally escaped from them late that evening and went direct to London with Swissair, one of the most efficient carriers in the world. Thus I missed the opportunity to meet and talk with the actual owner of the Holy Shroud and to report the matter to you. I am hopeful that this can still be accomplished at another time, perhaps by flying from London to Lisbon with a more sophisticated carrier.

Dr Max Frei

The other bad news is that I narrowly missed Dr Max Frei again when I was in Switzerland. He and I have been trying to get together for two years to discuss his remarkable work on the pollen samples he has taken from the Shroud itself. Although now retired from the Swiss police in which he gained a worldwide reputation for his forensic investigation work and palinology research, he spends a great deal of time on research in various parts of Europe and unfortunately he was away from his delightful home in the hills outside Zurich.

Editorial (contd)Turin again

So what is the good news? The good news comes in several ways. First, I went again to Turin for the first time since the world press conference in August 1978 which preceded the first public exposition of the Holy Shroud for 46 years and which led to so much of the current scientific research work and, indeed, to my own consuming interest in the subject and to my book PERPETUAL MIRACLE. It was a rewarding feeling to be at the Cathedral of St John again where the Holy Shroud is kept and to be once again in Turin and part of the incredible northern Italian traffic where most drivers conduct themselves as if possessed but where the Piedmontese food is quite magnificent.

Although the Turin visit is partly bad news because my friend Father Peter Rinaldi, who lives there, was again in the United States and I missed him (although I knew this in advance) I was able to meet his charming brother, also a priest, who guided me to the International Centre for Sindonology where I was to meet at last, Father Piero Coero-Borga, its director. We had a very interesting and fruitful discussion (in French) and he gave me a number of important items for my Holy Shroud archives and from which I shall convey further reports to SHROUD NEWS readers. Amongst other pleasant surprises at the International Centre was the flattering news that issues of SHROUD NEWS are translated into Italian for the Centre's collection.

More information

Amongst the good things that Coero-Borga gave me were his own book of photographic documentation of the history of the Holy Shroud with full permission to use the material in this newsletter; at last a copy of the full report of all the papers presented at the 1978 Shroud Congress held in Turin; a large supplement to the La Renaissance Catholique by Father Bruno Bonnet-Eymard; Professor Baima-Bollone's paper published in 1981 on his work concerning the identification of chemical substances on the cloth; some original photographs of Tamburelli's work on three-dimensional and enhanced photography of the image; and a fascinating broadsheet published by the controversial Kurt Berna of Switzerland who, amongst other sensational 'disclosures' about the Shroud he has published over the years, follows the line that Christ did not die on the cross and the other one about Christ living and dying much later in India after the crucifixion period.

Amongst many matters I discussed with Coero-Borga was a news item showing youngsters wearing Holy Shroud T-shirts. We agreed that

Editorial (contd)

this modern, if tasteless, treatment of the Shroud image could only help to bring the subject to wider attention. Coero-Borga has invited me to return to Turin with more time available in order to meet both Tamburelli and Baima-Bollone and see their work.

Dr. John Robinson

Whilst in England I talked by telephone with Dr John Robinson, the doyen of New Testament Greek scholars and author of several important papers on the intricacies of translation especially in relation to the gospel accounts of the grave cloths of Christ. He was not prepared to discuss the matter with me beyond what he has already published but, like everyone else, continues to take great interest in the scientific work going on in many parts of the world on the Shroud.

Ian Wilson

Another highlight of my visit was to spend a day with Ian Wilson, author of THE TURIN SHROUD and the world renowned proposer of the historical theories of the continued existence of the cloth since the first century. I still regard his book as the basic handbook for anyone interested in the Holy Shroud. In a wide ranging discussion we brought ourselves up to date on many matters including Frei's pollen analysis, image and blood sample work by the STURP team in America, McCrone's theories and their refutation, the work of coin identification by Filas in Chicago, the projected Carbon 14 dating and the Stevenson/Habermas book published last year which upset other members of the STURP team. Ian Wilson is the leading light in England in Shroud studies and is Chairman of the British Society for the Turin Shroud. Yet another compliment was paid to SHROUD NEWS as he told me that the Society was about to change its newsletter format to one very similar to that of SHROUD NEWS. The compliment was consummated when I received the first such issue which is, indeed, very like SHROUD NEWS and is kindly acknowledged as such in the editorial. We discussed the possibility of Wilson visiting Australia in the future. As SHROUD NEWS readers know, I have discussed the possibility of the Brooks Institute Exhibition coming here from California one day and it would be a marvellous enterprise if I could ever co-ordinate a touring exhibition to Australia which might involve that exhibit, another very good one I know of in England

Editorial (contd)

as well as such people as Otterbein, Rinaldi, Wilson and others to lecture and support the display. I'll keep working on it.

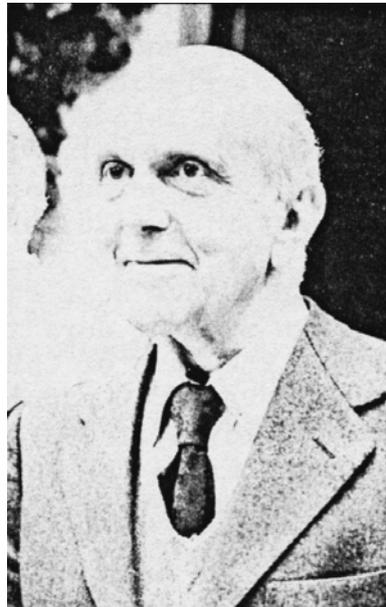
And so....

So there were several plusses and several minuses relating to the Shroud aspects of my most recent peregrinations. The failure to get to Umberto of Italy was partly balanced by the intense pleasure on the night I went to London instead of Portugal of meeting the great British actor Sir Ralph Richardson and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales -- but these name dropping exercises have nothing to do with my task of presenting information about the Holy Shroud to my readers so I'll get on with issue number 14.....

REX MORGAN

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**KING UMBERTO
OF
SAVOY**



[Photo Credit: The Holy Shroud Guild, New York, U.S.A.]

JOHN WEST AND THE HOLY SHROUD

SHROUD NEWS readers will recall the report of an interview between Rex Morgan and the Sydney artist John West in issue 5. The gist of West's story was that he had painted several religious paintings which exhibit the property of trompe-l'œil (the movement of the eyes towards the observer). He also claimed that his painting of the face of Christ must have been inspired by the Holy Shroud although at the time of painting it he had never seen or even heard of the Shroud.

John West subsequently moved to live in Cairns, North Queensland during last year. Several pieces of correspondence have been received from him since then. Shortly after he settled in Cairns he made a presentation to the Cairns City Council of his remarkable painting of Moses and the Ten Commandments. This caused a great deal of interest in Cairns simply through the generosity of the artist and the magnificence of the painting.

Some months later the painting and John West were again in the news because a clairvoyant had claimed she could see an aura around the head of the figure of Moses in the painting. Mrs June Schroen, the clairvoyant, said in January 1982, "I clearly saw a coloured aura around the central figure of Moses. It was a bright emanation of blue and violet fading into dove grey. To me the figure of Moses appeared to be three dimensional. I have seen many auras before but always around a living person or thing. This is the first time I have experienced anything like this."

In subsequent correspondence West says that several people have now claimed that they can see the aura and have also made similar claims for his painting of the Face of Christ. Rex Morgan put West in touch with one of the very few experimenters in Kirlian photography in Australia as he believes it would be interesting to attempt to photograph the auras claimed for both paintings. There is a reference to Kirlian photography in Morgan's book PERPETUAL MIRACLE.

Rex Morgan says: "I have been intending to follow up some research on the Kirlian method of photographing human aura as I understand that similar experiments have been done with inanimate objects. It would be very interesting to discover one day whether the Holy Shroud itself emanates any aura in this sense. We already know the results of scientific radiation tests and other physical ray measurements which

John West and the Holy Shroud (contd)

have been taken.

It is, however, well known that every person and living thing has an aura which is occasionally discernible to particularly sensitive people such as the Cairns clairvoyant. It is also well known that the Kirlian method enables these auras to be photographed. One can also assume that the historical Jesus Christ must have had an especially forceful aura or energy field around him when you consider the effect he had on people and such evidence as the story of the woman who touched his garment. If all this is the case it would be interesting to try to connect this phenomenon with the image formation process, a matter at which I hinted in my last book on the Holy Shroud. It is very fascinating that John West's painting for which he claims some connection with and influence from the Holy Shroud should now apparently be exhibiting an aura itself.

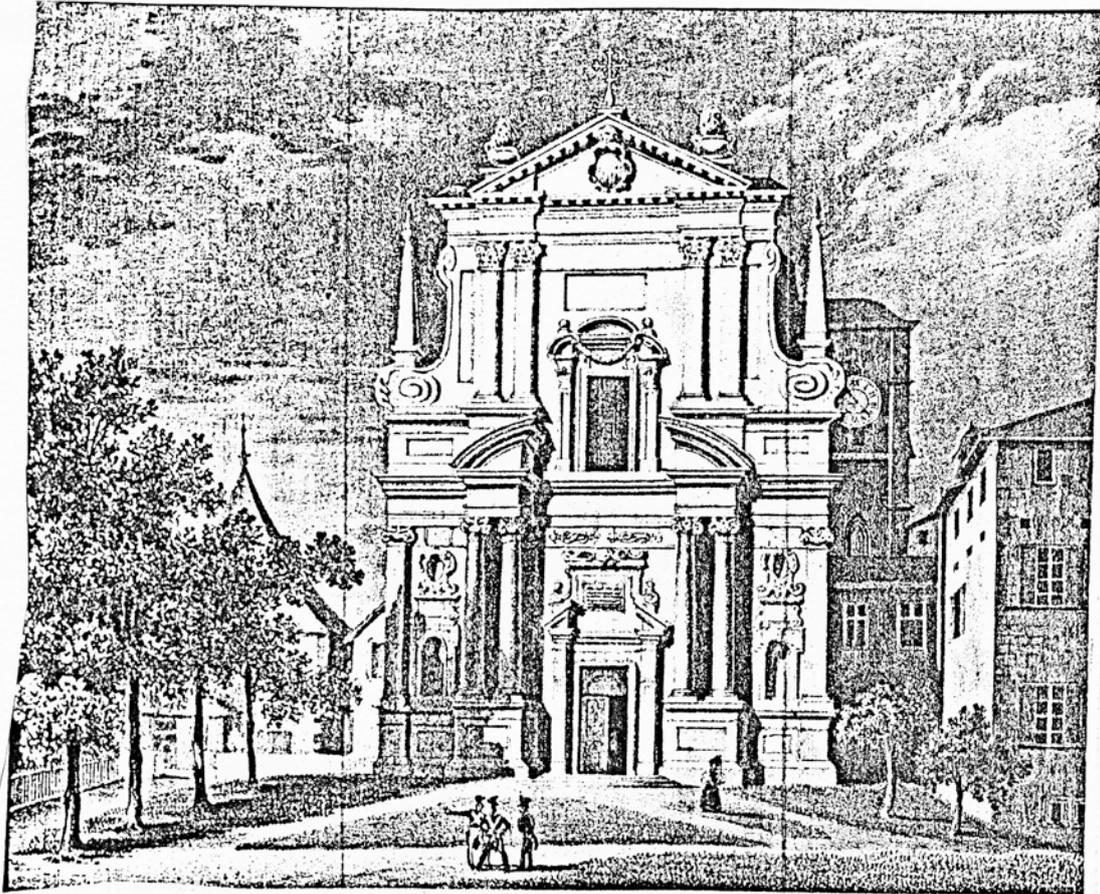
I have every intention of going to see him and the paintings again as soon as I can. There is clearly something mysterious going on in Cairns at the moment."

* * * * *

Since the above piece was prepared for SHROUD NEWS John West has communicated again with the news that a photographer has recently attempted to photograph his painting of the face of Christ in the dark with infra-red film and a red filter. They were advised that these conditions should have produced no image on the negative but in fact a bright yellow star of light appeared on the exposure in the middle of Christ's forehead. There is obviously something quite inexplicable happening with this and West's other painting discussed above.

There was a full-page article in a recent edition of the Australian magazine PEOPLE which described some of the mysterious phenomena associated with John West's paintings for which observers cannot account.

Whilst the phenomena no longer seem to be relevant to the Holy Shroud the original connection with it claimed by John West is fully described in our article in SHROUD NEWS No 5.



THE CHAPEL AT CHAMBÉRY IN FRANCE WHERE THE SAVOY FAMILY, OWNERS OF THE HOLY SHROUD, KEPT IT FOR MORE THAN 120 YEARS BEFORE IT WAS TAKEN IN 1578 TO TURIN WHERE IT HAS REMAINED. IT WAS HERE THAT THE FIRE OCCURRED IN 1532 WHICH CAUSED THE BURN MARKS VISIBLE TODAY. THIS MAGNIFICENT CHAPEL WAS BUILT IN 1408. THE PICTURE IS FROM AN ANTIQUE PRINT AND IS REPRODUCED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF SINDONOLOGY, TURIN.

NEWS FROM THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE TURIN SHROUD

The first British newsletter in its new format is dated June 1982. A quotation from the Editorial:

"Members may be surprised to note a new tabloid format to the newsletter. This is not an attempt to emulate The Sun! It has been inspired by the very ably produced Shroud News published by Rex Morgan in Australia, and goes to show that we can always learn from 'down under'."

This is a much appreciated compliment from the British Society. Indeed, the format is very much like SHROUD NEWS with a banner picture of the Shroud face, consecutive numbering of issues, an editorial comment and photographic reproductions.

Let SHROUD NEWS congratulate the BSTS on its excellent production.

We learn that the Annual General Meeting was scheduled for 25th June 1982 after which Ian Wilson was to give an address entitled "THE 1978 TESTING OF THE SHROUD - WHAT HAS IT ACHIEVED?"

The talk, says the newsletter, "will take a critical look at the conflicting scientific information which has become available. It will consider some of the deficiencies of the STURP investigation and ask whether any real progress has been made. Some recent new claims, such as those of Dr Alan Whanger, will also be discussed."

The newsletter also contains some information on Whanger's research, items about new publications and a BBC film and favourable comments on the production in America of the new journal SHROUD SPECTRUM.

We have also obtained a tape of the lecture given earlier to the BSTS by Nick White on the subject of carbon dating work being carried out at Oxford University. We expect to review this lecture and its interesting content in a future issue of SHROUD NEWS.

THE NOLANS OF SYDNEY - A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

On February 23rd 1981 there died in Sydney, New South Wales, a Catholic priest, Father Robert Cecil Nolan, who had spent his life studying and speaking about the Holy Shroud. Bishop Heather in his homily at Father Robert's Requiem Mass said that he had first met Nolan more than forty years before at a lecture Father Nolan was giving on the Holy Shroud. He said "The Shroud remained for him an absorbing interest throughout his priestly life and I recall discussing with him a recent book on the subject as recently as last year."

It was through Father Nolan's work that the Holy Shroud had one of its then very rare pieces of publicity in the Australian press. In June 1971 an article in the Sunday Mirror of Sydney by Frank O'Neill concentrated on the devotion of Nolan to the subject and his promotion of the Holy Face as depicted on the Shroud. In the article O'Neill recounted many of the facts of the Shroud as told by Nolan and, considering the year, the article was surprisingly sympathetic.

Two months after Robert Nolan's death Rex Morgan met his brother, Pat Nolan of Sydney. Through his involvement with his brother's interest, Pat Nolan's life has also become associated with the Holy Shroud. Pat Nolan writes for SHROUD NEWS:

To relate my experiences with the Shroud, I must interweave my life with that of my brother. Even back into the early 1940's my brother, a Catholic priest, ordained in 1942, had a devotion to the famous Shroud of Turin and had obtained a set of slides from the then official photographer at Torino and as Bishop Bede Heather said in his homily, "The Shroud remained for his an absorbing interest throughout his priestly life."

Back in the early 50's, I was an amateur photographer with makeshift darkroom facilities and we decided that I would try and reproduce photographs of the Face from the Shroud so that my brother could give them away when he gave a talk on the subject to interested groups. He visited many religious orders, schools, seminaries, etc, speaking on this subject over the years.

The Nolans of Sydney - a Personal Experience (contd)

Returning to my photographic efforts, my first experience was copying a photo from a book, the image size was 6" by 5" and this was done without any proper copying equipment. I felt that I did everything wrong, not a light-tight darkroom, etc but I actually enlarged this 2" x 3" negative to a 30" x 24" print with outstanding quality and detail and in fact produced over the next few years about a thousand prints for my brother to give away. Later on he had thousands printed by a printer to distribute.

In 1971, while building the new church at Carlingford he became incapacitated with a stroke for eighteen months and during this time I again became involved with the Shroud in a new way. The cross in the church was just the plain wood with no image so the Face in the Shroud print was painted by a talented painter, a Sister Joy, and mounted under the beam of the cross. This has since been changed by the new parish priest but the picture is now fixed to the wall behind the altar near the sanctuary light. I produced this 27" x 18" photo on a special rayon paper so that Sister Joy could paint the image of the Face of the Shroud.

This involvement led my wife and me into a new relationship of counselling troubled people and often when sharing with these people we would bring a picture of the Face of the Shroud into this area instead of a crucifix and must confess that often marvellous results were experienced by all parties.

During his lifetime my brother appeared on television in Sydney and Newcastle talking about the Holy Shroud.

My wife and I, no matter what future science states, believe that the Face on the Shroud, because of happenings over 30 years, is to us the face of Jesus Crucified, and nothing to the contrary will change this feeling.

PAT NOLAN

* * * * *

FILAS AND WHANGER

Reference was made in SHROUD NEWS number 12 that Dr Alan Whanger of Duke University has released a report of a study he has made on the existence of Pontius Pilate coins in the Shroud image and its correlation with an icon of Christ Pantocrator in St Catherine's Monastery, Mount Sinai which dates from the 6th Century. We have not yet been able to secure Whanger's paper but the indefatigable Father Francis Filas of Chicago has included some information about it in his latest statement dated April 1982. Filas has also published a completely updated version of his work THE DATING OF THE SHROUD OF TURIN FROM COINS OF PONTIUS PILATE in which he deals at length with his own and Whanger's research. In recent discussions abroad Rex Morgan found that some Shroud students hitherto sceptical of Filas's claims are beginning to sit up and look more closely at what he has to say.

In his latest statement he says:

"The findings of Dr Alan Whanger of Duke University (released 8th April 1982) plus an independent numismatic examination permanently remove the basis for any denial of the existence of Pontius Pilate coin imprints on the Shroud of Turin."

In November 1979, Reverend Francis L. Filas, SJ, Professor of Theology at Loyola University of Chicago, had first announced that he could identify the pattern over the right eye of the Man of the Shroud of Turin as agreeing with the historical pattern of coins issued after 29 A.D. by Pontius Pilate, governor of Palestine, who sentenced Jesus Christ to death by crucifixion.

During the next two years, Filas followed up this first announcement with evidence against chance patterns, three-dimensional image analysis, and the existence of two different Pilate coins with a previously unknown misspelling found only on the Shroud. In a filmstrip released in January 1982, Filas superimposed Shroud patterns and imprints from a Pilate coin in his possession to show that they matched within a fraction of an inch.

On April 8, 1982, Dr Alan Whanger of Duke University, a geriatric psychiatrist who studies the Shroud as a hobby, said that by

Filas and Whanger (contd)

using a polarizing photographic technique he had developed, he and his wife Mary made use of a computer-enhancement process and went on to count 74 points of congruence between the image over the right eye and the coin owned by Filas.

His findings were completely independent from the previous work of the Loyola professor, but Whanger was quoted as saying that they confirmed the Filas conclusions with an almost perfect match between Shroud image and coin configuration.

"Then came an added surprise," says Father Filas. "This was the coincidence that Dr Whanger in North Carolina discovered the dating of this coin almost to the day that the same discovery occurred in Chicago. On March 17, Mr William Pettit, Research Specialist for the Standard Catalog of World Coins (Krause Publications, Iola, Wisconsin) visited me to make a personal examination of my Pilate coins. Pettit had read of conflicting claims in the press that the Filas coin could not be one of Pontius Pilate, or that I had misread the Shroud images as supposedly being too indistinct, or that my identification was the result of wishful thinking."

The weatherbeaten and corroded reverse side of the coin that fitted the right-eye Shroud image had resisted all previous attempts to make out any meaningful pattern. Both Whanger and Pettit, however, noted three tiny letters: an "L" (abbreviating a symbol for "year"); the Greek "Iota" (with the number value of ten); and the Greek "Stigma" (an obsolete letter that looks like a rounded "5" in English, but that carried the number value of six). "This meant that the coin had been minted in the 16th (10 + 6) year of the Emperor Tiberius Caesar, and since Tiberius took office in what we call 14 A.D., the coin whose imprints exist over the right eye of the Man of the Shroud had to be minted in what we call 29 A.D."

"But the story has another stunning development," continues Father Filas. "Photographically, I was able to make only a tentative identification of a Pontius Pilate coin over the left eye as one named after Julia, the mother of Tiberius Caesar. It was issued apparently only in 29 A.D., with the inscription of still another obsolete Greek letter called the 'diagamma' plus the 'iota', again totalling 'Year 16 of Tiberius'.

Filas and Whanger (contd)

Dr and Mrs Whanger, again using the polarization and computer enhancement processes, found that the left-eye markings are compatible with those of the Julia coin, citing several dozen areas of congruence even though they are not as clear as those of the right eye.

"The conclusions point in one inescapable direction: Forgery of the Shroud is utterly impossible. No forger in the Middle Ages or even earlier would have been able to fabricate tiny imprints over both eyes of the Shroud cloth, in photographic negative, with no pigment, reflecting letters and a rare pattern that ranged from 1/32 to 1/2 inch high, from two different Roman coins issued in Palestine in 29 A.D.

"It is difficult to imagine how these two coins on the right and left eye could have been used together with a later Roman governor in power. They were certainly not used up to the time of the Jewish rebellion in 67 A.D. and the subsequent levelling of Jerusalem by the Roman armies," Father Filas concludes.

"This dates the Shroud of Turin to the time of Pontius Pilate in Palestine, just after 29 A.D., to fit the most likely historical year of the death of Jesus Christ, 30 A.D.

"What else can the Shroud be but the burial cloth of Jesus Christ, now proven as such, and providing a photographic negative of the face and body of Jesus?"

Professor Filas has updated and re-published his monograph THE DATING OF THE SHROUD OF TURIN FROM COINS OF PONTIUS PILATE. This is an approximately 10,000 word illustrated paper giving a chronological description of his work on the coins. Filas has given Rex Morgan the full rights to reproduce the paper for circulation in Australia in view of the expense of production and airmail postage from the United States. Through Runciman Press we have thus arranged for reproductions of the whole informative document to be available to SHROUD NEWS readers and others who may wish to order it. After production costs we propose to send a proportion of receipts to Father Filas to assist his continuing work, although he has not asked for this. An order form is enclosed with this issue.

SHROUD SPECTRUM INTERNATIONAL

We made brief mention of the new SHROUD SPECTRUM in our last editorial. Rex Morgan discussed this publication with Ian Wilson and with Don Piero Coero-Borga of the Turin International Centre recently and all agreed that the work being done by Mrs Dorothy Crispino to produce this high-quality magazine is worthy of considerable support.

To date there have been three issues of SHROUD SPECTRUM. The journal itself is produced with a full-colour cover on heavy board and the content, printed on a quality of paper stock and with a layout befitting the best learned journals in the world, runs to 40 pages in each issue with excellent reproduction of photographs and line drawings.

Each issue contains four or five major articles, all in English, several of which are translated from the original (usually Italian) publications in SINDON, the journal of the International Centre for Sindonology. These translations must surely be regarded as a major contribution for those of us who are primarily English-speaking readers. SHROUD NEWS, for example, has to cope with the intense frustration of having in its hands valuable papers in Italian (of which your editor has none beyond the fragile ability of being able to order a meal in an Italian restaurant) and French (of which he has little more than kindergarten standard).

If Mrs Crispino will permit it, it will be possible to lean on her expert translations of such articles to review for SHROUD NEWS.

Those of you who would subscribe to SHROUD SPECTRUM are advised that the current subscription for a year (four issues) is \$18 US and the address is:

Mrs Dorothy Crispino,
Indiana Center for Shroud Studies,
R. 3 Box 557,
NASHVILLE, Indiana, 47448, U.S.A.

We highly recommend the publication to serious students of the Holy Shroud.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Our list of subscribers is increasing gradually and we welcome new readers to the circle. Subscriptions have not been increased since the first issue and run at only \$3.00 Australian for batches of four issues.

MORE SUBSCRIBERS

Please encourage those of your acquaintance to join our subscription list. In this way we can only improve the newsletter in the future. Our four-issue subscription arrangement does not over-commit either the subscriber or the publisher although we do not anticipate the demise of the newsletter at the moment!

CONTRIBUTIONS

Please feel free to write to SHROUD NEWS with any comment about the newsletter itself or about the subject of the Holy Shroud of Turin. The newsletter goes to interested people all over Australia and to several other countries of the world.

FUTURE ISSUES

We have in hand much scientific and other material to provide copy for future issues. We receive the latest information from many international sources and author REX MORGAN draws on his frequent overseas visits for personal contact with people and institutions devoted to the study of the Holy Shroud.

LECTURES

Rex Morgan is happy to lecture (free of charge) to any group interested in the Holy Shroud. Contact Sydney 981 4633.

PUBLICATION

All information and opinion published in this newsletter is given in good faith to pass on to interested persons, matters concerning the Holy Shroud of Turin. It is edited (and mainly written) by REX MORGAN, author of PERPETUAL MIRACLE, and published by:

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