

NEWS & ACTIVITIES AROUND THE WORLD

1991 has been a year of waiting: waiting to hear what steps will be taken to transfer the Shroud, in its reliquary, from the Holy Shroud Chapel to the Cathedral while the dome of the Chapel is being repaired. Legal problems, as well as logistical, are quite complicated. Our hope in waiting is fixed on the possibility, however slim it might be, that the change of locus would allow an examination by recognized experts in the scientific community whose global knowledge in Shroud studies and understanding of sindonic problems has qualified them for this task.

In this uncertain climate, few activities have been noted. In March a symposium was held in New York City. Theme of the conference was "The Current State of the Question". Panel discussions were held on the evaluation of the C14 dating of the Shroud. Speakers included Isabel Piczek, Paul Maloney, Ian Wilson, Charles Little, Frederick Zugibe, Jeannette Cardamone, Alan Whanger, Daniel Scavone, John Jackson.

In June, a symposium was held in St. Louis: "History, Science, Theology and the Shroud". Speakers included John Jackson, Kenneth Stevenson, David Mayschak, Bro. Bruno Bonnet-Eymard, Isabel Piczek, Albert Dreisbach, Paul Maloney, Barbara Sullivan, Daniel Scavone, Robert Dinegar, Alan Whanger, Rex Morgan, Frank Tribbe, Philip Callahan. A paper by Mario Moroni was read by Ramon Ollé i Ribalta.

Since I was unable to attend either of these conferences, I can give no further details. And since I have only tentative lists of speakers, I beg pardon of anyone whose name is not here included, or who was not present though his name is listed.

From the French group CIELT, we hear that the "Tour de France" of the full-size transparency of the Shroud, loaned by the generosity of Kevin Moran, had completed its rounds of 6000 kilometers and had been returned to its owner. In each town, CIELT delegates had undertaken, at their own expense, the responsibilities of transportation, mounting and disassembling the delicate yet cumbersome film, the locale for the exhibit, lighting, conferences, press coverage, etc. But it was such a success that CIELT has purchased a new transparency and a second Tour de France will soon start on its way.

CIELT announces a II Paris International Symposium of Shroud Studies to be held in Rome, Italy, in the spring of 1993. Details will be announced as plans develop.