

## STAINING BY DEAD BODIES

In the wake of the *Q.E.D.* programme on the Shroud producer Robin Bootle received a letter from a former undertaker, Ronald Warrior, of Flat B, 17 Beaconsfield Road, London N11 3AA, with some curious new information. According to Mr. Warrior:

I spent a number of years in the undertaking business. Bodies were removed and transported in 'shells'. These were wooden coffins with white painted interiors for efficient cleaning. I have frequently seen staining produced by bodies where they have been in contact with the painted surface. The stain was permanent and a source of annoyance as anyone who has had to clean these shells will testify. The staining was brown. I'm surprised that this effect has not been mentioned by those who were interviewed who have experience of handling corpses.

It could be an informative, if somewhat unpalatable research exercise to check out Mr. Warrior's observation among still practising undertakers nationwide. Any volunteers?

## SHROUD *Q.E.D.* TO BE REPEATED

The BBC *Q.E.D.* programme "Riddle of the Turin Shroud" first broadcast on BBC2 on 17 October of last year (see *Newsletter* no 20), is to be repeated on BBC1 at 9.35 pm, on Wednesday 22 March. Because the BBC1 slot is only 30 minutes, producer Robin Bootle has been obliged to cut the original programme by nine minutes, principally by removing Dr. Alan Whanger's material about picture comparisons and coins on the eyes. The main thrust of the programme, as before, will be on the parallel mystery of the Jospice mattress imprint (see *Newsletters* 18 & 19). Because of the BBC1 slot, a viewing audience of six million is expected.