

EDITORIAL

The Continuing Search for Truth on the Shroud...

The last issue of this Newsletter featured four theories of how the Shroud image could have been formed, two pro-authenticity, two against. Also included was a novel 'fungus coating' explanation for how a misleading carbon dating reading could have been reached. Now, in this issue we offer three independent explanations for how the carbon 14 content of a genuinely first century Shroud might have been 'enriched' for it to appear as 14th century. Those behind the theories - one Russian, one French, one English - are individuals highly qualified to speak with good authority. But in which, if any, of these three theories, lies the real truth?

On matters of historical truth, with the recent speculation that Leonardo 'faked' the Shroud in 1492, it seemed an appropriate moment to review the known facts of the half-century following the Shroud's transfer to the Savoy family in 1453, and readers may find useful the hitherto unpublished chronology for those years included in this issue, based on this Editors background notes. The exercise had the happy by-product of revealing a new Christ image based on the Shroud firmly dateable to between 1485 and 1490, and this is reproduced on p.19. The book relating to the Leonardo theory, to be published September 9, will be reviewed in a later issue.