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THE ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE WATCHTOWER SOCIETY UNDER JOSEPH F. RUTHERFORD

SUMMARY

After the death of Charles Taze Russell, Joseph F. Rutherford was elected the president of the Bible Student movement. He managed to stabilize the movement and changed its name into Jehovah's Witnesses. He was primarily focused on centralizing the administrative structure and the development of its missionary activities. Numerous radio stations of the Watchtower Society were launched under his presidency. He also introduced an innovative method of spreading Jehovah's Witnesses' doctrine with gramophone soundtracks. Apart from radio stations, annual congresses made their contribution in reinforcing the structure of the organization and the development of its missionary activities. President Rutherford also procured that Jehovah's Witnesses' literature was printed by the Watchtower Society. In addition to the main printing-office in Brooklyn, a number of small printing-offices were shortly established all over the world. In the development of the organization a big part was played by numerous Rutherford's "missionary" journeys, particularly those to European countries, as well as activities of many other devoted members of the Watchtower Society. Under Rutherford's presidency, the doctrine of Jehovah's Witnesses was successfully spread over six continents.

KEY WORDS: Jehovah's Witnesses, Watchtower Society, J. F. Rutherford

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