

HISTORIC REPUBLICATIONS

ZION'S Watch Tower was first issued a hundred years ago in July 1879, and as the official organ of the Harvest Message it nurtured the faith of Bible Students for nearly forty years until the death of its founder, Pastor Charles T. Russell in 1916.*

What happened at the Watch Tower Society's headquarters following Brother Russell's death was not known to many of the Lord's people beyond the four Directors and other workers evicted soon after. This little band, suffering at the hands of their brethren issued two papers: "Light After Darkness" (September 1, 1917), and "Facts for Shareholders" (November 15, 1917) as a refutation of the charges published by the President of the Society and circulated to all Watch Tower readers.

However, as they could not gain access to the Society's mailing list, their papers reached a very limited number of brethren, while the President's account of the trouble was widely read and accepted.**

To mark the Centennial of the Watch Tower magazine's founding, facsimile reproductions of these original booklets have been printed. This project is sponsored by a number of brethren interested in acquainting the Lord's people with this history. The information presents a challenge to the claims that Pastor Russell was the founder of the Jehovah's Witnesses organization, and that The Finished Mystery is his posthumous work.

The Will and Testament of Charles Taze Russell has been reprinted also and is supplied with the booklets for the convenience of the reader for points treated in these documents: "Light After Darkness" and "Facts for Shareholders."

Single or multiple copies of the booklets are available free of charge from: HISTORIC REPUBLICATIONS, P. O. Box 33, Dayton, Ohio 45459-0033.

* Most Bible Students accept only those issues of the Watch Tower edited by its founder, ending with the December 15, 1916 issue.

** For the Society's version of the period treated in these booklets, see the 1975 Year Book of Jehovah's Witnesses, pages 87, 88, 91-94.