

4/15/31

2005
SS RC
International Relations

31150

The officers recommended an appropriation of \$31,250 to the Social Science Research Council toward the maintenance for two and one-half years of a program of research planning in the field of international relations.

SOCIAL
SCIENCE
RESEARCH
COUNCIL --
COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS

1. The Social Science Research Council is engaged in developing comprehensive plans of research in certain major fields. These fields are defined, not in terms of the accepted subjects or disciplines - such as economics, political science, sociology, - into which social science is commonly divided, but rather according to certain primary problems or interests which present themselves in current life and affairs. One of these problems or areas of interest selected by the Council for study and planning is that of international relations.
2. For the work in this field, the Council has secured the services of an outstanding authority, Professor James T. Shotwell of Columbia University. All the conditions for sound development under his direction have seemed so favorable that the Council has definitely underwritten the amounts required to carry on the work for a period of two and one-half years beginning January 1, 1931. But if the Council is compelled to take the necessary funds from those at present in hand, the established operations of the Council will be seriously restricted if not actually crippled. The Council consequently appeals for a grant to provide for the work which Professor Shotwell has undertaken.
3. The character of the work that is contemplated is indicated in the following summary statement:
The Division of International Relations will
 - a. Keep itself informed of individual or organization researches which are in progress or are projected, and lend any encouragement within its power.
 - b. Act as a kind of general staff which can itself furnish, or appeal to specialists for, criticism of research projects. This criticism may be requested by the individuals who plan the researches or by Foundations to which an appeal is made for financial support.
 - c. Attempt to coordinate and prevent duplication of work now being carried on (by individuals and organizations) and to suggest lines of work (which might be profitably undertaken.)

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- d. Act as a planning body which will itself prepare or encourage outside specialists to prepare research programs designed to work particular subjects intensively or to cover larger areas in the field of international relations.

Professor Shotwell, in carrying on this program will act with the advice of a special Council committee made up of experienced men of affairs especially interested in the field of international relations. The total budget contemplated for this work is \$25,000 a year.

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4. The program of work for which the Council has arranged is of manifest importance to the Foundation. Systematic planning, with competent appraisal of the various projects which seek aid must be provided for if the Foundation is to develop wisely its recognized interest in the field of international relations. From certain points of view, there are distinct advantages in having the planning operations provided for outside, rather than inside the Foundation, and hence generally available. It is expected that the advisory services thus offered will prove extremely useful to the Foundation. They may be expected, furthermore, to exert a strong influence more generally in the promotion of significant research in international relations. Support of the undertaking for the limited period requested is recommended as an important and thoroughly promising experiment with one form of administration provision for intelligent and far-sighted planning of research in a field in which the Foundation has already a definite interest.

Whereupon it was, on motion,

RESOLVED that the sum of Thirty-one thousand two hundred fifty dollars
RF 31049 (\$31,250), or as much thereof as may be necessary be, and it is hereby, appropriated to the SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL toward the maintenance over a period of two and one-half years beginning January 1, 1931, of a program of research planning in the field of INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, it being understood that not more than \$6,250 shall be available during the period January 1 to June 30, 1931, and not more than \$12,500 in each of the subsequent years.
