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Univ. of Chicago
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Madison papers

It was, on motion,

RESOLVED that the sum of One hundred fifty thousand dollars
RF 56065 (\$150,000), or as much thereof as may be necessary,
be, and it hereby is, appropriated to the UNIVERSITY
OF CHICAGO toward the costs of preparation for publi-
cation of an edition of the writings of James Madison,
to be undertaken jointly by the University of Chicago
and the University of Virginia, this sum to be avail-
able during the period ending December 31, 1968.

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The above action was taken after an oral presentation of
the project by Mr. Fahs and following discussion.

Among the considerations presented were:

Humanities: History

Previous Interest: No previous interest in this project. Grants
similar to the one now proposed have been made to other institu-
tions for work on the writings of Alexander Hamilton, the Adams
family, and Abraham Lincoln.

General Description: James Madison as a member of the Constitu-
tional Convention and its unofficial reporter, as coauthor of the
Federalist papers, and as fourth President of the United States
ranks as one of the major architects of American constitutional
theory and practice. The most nearly complete edition of Madison
papers now available is Gaillard Hunt's nine volumes of selected
writings issued between 1900 and 1910. Although still valuable,
this edition represents only a fraction of Madison's writings.
Not only are many important Madison papers missing, but only in-
frequently does Hunt include letters to Madison which are essen-
tial to the full understanding of Madison's own statements. More-
over Hunt's explanatory notes rarely meet today's more rigorous
editorial standards in completeness and accuracy.

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A new and fuller edition is therefore proposed jointly by the University of Chicago and the University of Virginia. Since Madison's papers are largely concentrated at the Library of Congress, the National Archives, and the University of Virginia, there will be little problem in tracing lost materials. Most of the editorial activity will be concentrated on the development of full and accurate notes and on fitting the edition to take best advantage of the work of other editorial projects, notably that of the Jefferson papers.

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The contemplated edition of Madison's writings will be under the direction of a three-man editorial board representing both universities. Professors Leonard D. White and William T. Hutchinson have already been selected by the University of Chicago and it is anticipated that the University of Virginia will soon make its choice. Professor White will act as chairman of the editorial board and will give general direction to the project until 1960, when Professor Hutchinson will assume this responsibility. The major portion of daily work will fall to an associate editor yet to be chosen. It is desirable that this post be filled by a scholar of particular competence in late 18th and early 19th century American history who possesses some editorial experience as well. For consultation on technical matters and for policy advice, there will be appointed a special advisory board of distinguished scholars on the early period of United States history. Publication is guaranteed by the University of Chicago Press in an edition of approximately 22 volumes. Headquarters will be maintained at Chicago in office space provided by the University.

It is expected that the project will run full time for eight years beginning in the autumn of 1956 and that an additional four years of reduced activity will be required to complete all phases of the work, including publication.

Finances: The Foundation is asked to contribute \$150,000 toward a total budget of approximately \$376,000 as follows:

Salaries	\$323,000
Consultation	6,000
Equipment and Supplies	12,000
Travel	20,000
Reserve	<u>15,000</u>

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Total \$376,000

In addition \$99,000 will be required to meet printing and type-setting costs, but it is understood that The Rockefeller Foundation's grant would not be available toward these publication expenses. Annual budgets (exclusive of printing costs) during the peak eight-year period will approximate \$35,000 and thereafter they will fall to about half that amount. It is anticipated that the State of Virginia will provide 25 per cent of the total of \$475,000 through contributions to the University of Virginia. Already \$20,000 has been appropriated for the 1956-1957 biennium. Additional funds are also being sought from the Ford Foundation.

Comment: The project for the editing and publishing of the papers of Thomas Jefferson has had a notable influence in encouraging similar complete scholarly editions of the other major American statesmen who played prominent roles in the early years of the Republic. At present, editions are being prepared of the writings of Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, and John Adams. Thus, with Washington's papers already available in adequate form, the omission of Madison's papers has become conspicuous, an omission the more marked because of Irving Brant's fine contribution toward the re-establishment of Madison's importance in the events of his day. This publishing of the papers of the founding fathers has symbolic value for the United States. But in the cases of those who helped to formulate our constitutional law and practice as did Madison, there is added importance for contemporary thought. The unhappy results throughout the world of shallow thinking on revolution and democracy make it urgent that we restudy and reinterpret the ideas which sustain our

institutions. Publication of papers such as those of Madison facilitates this reinterpretation.

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Future Implications: None. The proposed grant will constitute
The Rockefeller Foundation's total contribution to this project.
