

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Guidelines for the Transfer of the Editorial Offices of the *HAHR*

The editorial offices of the *HAHR* moved from the University of Texas to the University of Arizona on July 1, 1975, and will move to a new institution on July 1, 1980. The new editors will assume responsibility for the February 1981 issue.

Bids will be received during 1979 and the Board of Editors will make its determination at the annual meeting in December of that year. A subcommittee, consisting of board members whose terms overlap the transfer, will review the applications and make recommendations to the board at the December 1979 meeting.

Procedures to be Employed

1. Formal bids and supporting data should be submitted to the Managing Editor in three copies. The Managing Editor will forward all necessary documentation to the subcommittee.
2. Bids should include the names and vitae of the proposed Managing Editor, Associate Editor, and Book Review Editor(s).
3. The extent of university support (for example, released time, clerical support, graduate assistantships, telephone, postage, xeroxing, computer time, and supplies) should be included together with a statement of commitment from appropriate university administrators.
4. A covering letter from the proposed Managing Editor to the board should provide any additional information deemed appropriate.
5. The deadline for the receipt of bids will be November 15, 1979.

The current Managing Editor will be happy to respond to any questions raised by those considering making a formal bid.

Manuscript Analysis of *HAHR* Articles

For the third time, the Arizona editorial staff offers the *HAHR* readership a statistical breakdown of articles received and articles published in the pages of the journal. The information for the period July 1977 to June 30, 1978 is included as well as the cumulative figures for the first three years of the Arizona editorship.

The most noteworthy trend for the period 1977 to 1978 is a decline in the number of articles submitted. During the period July 1, 1975 to June 30, 1977, article submissions averaged ninety-two per year. During the twelve-month period ending June 30, 1978, the journal received only seventy articles. Undoubtedly the high rate of rejections described in the last two annual reports proved discouraging to some potential authors. Simply stated, chances for acceptance in most other journals are much higher. In addition, several newer journals with different standards or different interests and without large backlogs of accepted articles are

Chart I: Analysis of Articles Received July 1977-June 30, 1977.

Country	Period			Topical Emphasis					Disposition					
	Col.	Nat'l.	19th C.	20th C.	Pol.	Dipl.	Econ.	Soc.	Intel.	Gen.	Total	Acc.	Rej.	Pending
Argentina	3		2	2	4			3			7	1	4	2
Bolivia	1		1	1	1			1			3		3	
Brazil	3	3	3	7	1	3	3	9			16	2	14	
Caribbean	1	1		3	2	1	1	1			5	2	3	
Central America			1	1	1		1				2	1	1	
Chile			2	1	1		1				2	1	1	
Colombia			1		1						1			1
Cuba			1	2	1				1		2	2		
Ecuador				1		1					1			1
Guatemala														
Mexico				2	1		5	4	1	2	13	5	7	1
Nicaragua	8		3	2	1						1			
Panama				1		1					1		1	1
Paraguay	2			1				2			2		1	1
Peru	2			1	3						3	1	2	
Uruguay														
Venezuela	1			1	1			1			2			2
Latin America (General)	3	2	1	1		2	2	2	2	1	7	2	3	2
Spain	1	1							1	1	2		2	
Philippines	1				1						1			1
Totals	26	7	14	23	17	8	12	24	5	4	70	17	45	8

Chart II: Analysis of Articles Published during 1978.

Country	Period				Topical Emphasis						
	Col.	Nat'l.	19th C.	20th C.	Pol.	Dipl.	Econ.	Soc.	Intel.	Gen.	Total
Argentina				1	1						1
Bolivia				1	1						1
Brazil	2		1				1	2			3
Caribbean	2			1	1	1		1			3
Central America											
Chile			1					1			1
Colombia		1						1			1
Cuba				1	1						1
Mexico	3			3	1		1	2		2	6
Paraguay											
Peru											
Venezuela											
Latin America (General)	1	1						1	1		2
Spain											
Total	8	2	2	7	5	1	2	8	1	2	19

assuredly receiving some submissions that previously would have arrived unsolicited in the offices of the *HAHR*. During the past two years, for example, fully half of the articles published in the *English Journal of Latin American History* were written by U.S. authors.

It is revealing to try to place this quantitative trend in qualitative perspective. During the twelve-month period under consideration here, a much smaller percentage of submissions were rejected on the basis of in-house staff assessment. This fact suggests that although fewer articles were received, most of those submitted were deemed of sufficiently high quality to warrant formal outside readings. To state this phenomenon differently, the *HAHR* received many less obviously inappropriate articles than it has in the past. The high quality articles (some of which unfortunately had to be rejected) continued to arrive at about the same level as in previous years.

Because of the decline in submissions, our percentage of acceptances rose slightly during the year 1977-1978. Of the seventy articles submitted we were able to accept seventeen. Discounting those articles listed as pending in Chart I, the acceptance rate for articles was 27.42 percent and the rejection rate 72.58 percent. The comparable figures for the two-year period ending July 1, 1977 were 24.43 percent acceptances and 75.57 percent rejections.

Last year we observed that Mexico and Brazil dominated article submissions. We took special note of the fact that for the first time more articles had been submitted on Brazil (21) than on Mexico (20). The same phenomenon occurred this year. Brazil and Mexico continue to lead in the number of articles submitted and Brazil, with sixteen submissions, led Mexico, with thirteen. For the three-year period ending June 30, 1977, articles submitted on Mexico (59) and on Brazil (49) constituted almost forty-three percent of all articles received. The Central American republics and Uruguay continue to evoke little scholarly interest.

Chart III: Analysis of Articles Received July 1, 1975-June 30, 1978.

Country	Period			Topical Emphasis						Disposition					
	Col.	Nat'l.	19th C.	20th C.	Pol.	Dipl.	Econ.	Soc.	Intel.	Gen.	Total	Acc.	Rej.	Pending	
Argentina	5	1	10	5	7		3	9	2			21	4	15	2
Bolivia	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	2				6	1	5	
Brazil	8	10	19	12	10	5	11	20	3			49	11	38	
Caribbean	3	1		4	2	2	1	2		1		8	3	5	
Central America	2		3	4	4	3	1	1				9	2	7	
Chile		2	10	2	3	3	4	2	2			14	4	10	
Colombia	1	7	2	2	5	2	2	2	3			10	2	7	1
Cuba	2	1	6	5	4	3	3	2	1			13	4	9	
Ecuador	1	1		3	1	2	1	1				5	1	5	
Guatemala			1				1					1	1		
Mexico	24	1	13	22	11	10	7	20	8	3		59	16	42	1
Nicaragua		2		2		1	1			1		4	4	1	
Panama	2					2				1		3	1	1	1
Paraguay	7	3	2	1	5		2	6				13	3	10	
Peru															
Uruguay	1			2	1	1		1				3		3	
Venezuela															
Latin America (General)	10	3	6	3	1	5	1	10	4	1		22	5	15	2
Spain	9	1	1	1	3			4	3	2		12	4	8	
Philippines	1				1							1			1
Totals	76	27	80	71	60	38	37	85	26	8		254	61	185	8

Chart IV: Analysis of Articles Published 1976-1978.

Country	Period				Topical Emphasis						
	Col.	Nat'l.	19th C.	20th C.	Pol.	Dipl.	Econ.	Soc.	Intel.	Gen.	Total
Argentina			3	1	1		2	1			4
Bolivia				1	1						1
Brazil	3	2	4	1		1	2	5	2		10
Caribbean	2			1	1	1		1			3
Central America			1	1		1	1				2
Chile		2	2		1			2	1		4
Colombia		1	1		1			1			2
Cuba	1		1	1	2		1				3
Mexico	6	1	1	5	2	1	4	4		2	13
Paraguay			1					1			1
Peru	2							2			2
Venezuela											
Latin America (General)	3	1	1		2			1	2		5
Spain	3				1			1		1	3
Total	20	7	15	11	12	4	10	19	5	3	53

The breakdown by chronological emphasis demonstrates that twenty-six articles treating the colonial period comprise thirty-seven percent of all submissions, up from twenty-four percent the previous year. For four years in a row, articles in social history have dominated the topical categories. During the three years in which the *HAHR* has been housed at Arizona, articles in the field of social history comprised thirty-three percent of all submissions; political history, twenty-four percent; diplomatic, fifteen percent; economic history, fifteen percent; intellectual history, ten percent; and miscellaneous, three percent (percentages rounded).

Since July 1, 1976, the *HAHR* has published fifty-three articles, including notes and comments. Articles on the colonial period fared slightly better than their counterparts treating the period since independence. While colonial articles comprised thirty percent of all submissions (76 of 254), they made up almost thirty-eight percent of all acceptances (20 of 53). On a topical breakdown, articles in social history constituted thirty-three percent of all submissions and thirty-six percent of all acceptances. Diplomatic history articles, on the other hand, made up fifteen percent of submissions but only eight percent of acceptances.

Not shown in the accompanying tables, but of possible interest, is the number and disposition of articles received from foreign authors. During the period 1977 to 1978, eight articles (or eleven percent) were submitted by foreign authors. One was accepted. In the three years ending June 30, 1978, the *HAHR* received thirty-two articles from foreign authors. Of these, thirteen came from England, five from Israel, four from Canada, four from Brazil, two from Japan, and one each from Germany, Barbados, Bolivia, and Chile. To date seven of these articles (or twenty-two percent) have been accepted. The acceptance percentage is marginally higher than the acceptance rate for all articles submitted during the last three years (twenty-one percent).

In spite of our ongoing attempts to expedite the manuscript evaluation process,

the average time span between article submissions and publication decisions has increased over the past year from forty-three to fifty-six days (as compared to fifty-two days in the period ending June 30, 1976). We attribute this increase to the fact that authors who have received tentative acceptances have taken longer to submit a revised manuscript. However, the length of time for editorial decisions once the revised manuscript is in the office has remained constant. The average time length between original submission and actual publication has risen only slightly, from thirteen months to thirteen months and twenty-five days.