

FROM THE EDITORIAL ASSISTANT'S DESK

Manuscript Analysis of *HAHR* Articles

In this final issue of the *HAHR* published under the aegis of the Arizona editors, we include a fifth annual statistical breakdown of articles received and articles published as well as cumulative figures for our full five-year period which began July 1, 1975, and ended on June 30, 1980. In addition, we offer some comparative remarks on articles submitted and published during the period of our editorship and that of the University of Texas (1970–1975).

Manuscript submissions for the period July 1, 1979, to June 30, 1980, numbered 71, thus remaining constant with the figures for the previous two years. During the Arizona editorship, the *HAHR* received a total of 397 articles, an average of 79 per year. This represents a small decline from the Texas annual average of nearly 90. As we noted last year, the decline began in the 1977–1978 reporting year and does not reflect a lower rate of quality. Roughly the same absolute numbers of articles have continued to merit outside reading by specialists in the field. Factors which help to explain the lower submissions rate include the appearance of several new journals within the last few years, the numerical decline in graduate programs throughout the country, and the difficulty of obtaining research support. Also our high rejection rate tends to discourage prospective authors who are under great pressure to have their work published. Relatively few authors whose articles are rejected try again.

Of the 71 articles received during the 1979–1980 year, we accepted 12 (approximately 17 percent). Were the journal not moving we probably would have accepted a few more for 1981 publication but we believed it preferable to retain a large pending category so that the new editors can have the opportunity to make final decisions on articles published under their direction. Our acceptance rate for the full five-year period has been 22.42 percent, or about one in every five articles submitted. The number of articles accepted during the Arizona editorship (89) is almost identical with that of Texas (88), but because the total number of articles submitted was slightly higher during the Texas period (12 percent), their rejection rate was also somewhat higher (77.9 percent in contrast to our 73.8 percent).

During the 1979–1980 reporting year, Mexico (for the second year in a row) clearly dominated submissions (18 or 25.35 percent) with the leader of the previous two-year period, Brazil, taking second place with 8 submissions (11.27 percent). Argentina came in a close third with 7 articles submitted (9.86 percent), followed by Venezuela and Latin America (in general) with 6 submissions each (8.45 percent). During our five-year period, we have received 99 articles on Mexico (24.94 percent), 69 on Brazil (17.38 percent), 34 on Argentina (8.56 percent), 22 each on Chile and the Central American countries (5.54 percent), 17 on Peru (4.28 percent), and 16 each on Cuba, Colombia, the Caribbean (besides Cuba), and Spain (4.03 percent). These are followed by Venezuela with 13 (3.27 percent), Ecuador with 10 (2.52 percent), and Bolivia with 9 (2.27 percent). Paraguay and Uruguay are at the bottom of the list with 1 and .25 percent, respectively. Mexico also dominated submissions during the Texas editorship (22.32 percent) and Brazil followed in second place (16.29 percent). During both five-year periods, the number of articles on Brazil and Mexico accounted for approximately 40 percent of all articles submitted.

Chart I: Analysis of Articles Received July 1979-June 30, 1980.

Country	Period			Topical Emphasis							Disposition			
	Col.	Nat'l.	19th C.	20th C.	Pol.	Dipl.	Econ.	Soc.	In-tel.	Gen.	Total	Acc.	Rej.	Pend-ing
Argentina	1		4	2	1	1	1	2	2		7	3	1	3
Bolivia	1						1				1	1		
Brazil	1	2	1	4	2	2	2	2			8	2	6	
Caribbean	1		3		2	2	2				4	1	3	
Central America			2	1	1	1					3		1	2
Chile		2	1	1	1	1		2			4		3	1
Colombia	1	1			1	1	1				2		2	
Cuba	1				1	1	1	1	1		3	1	2	
Ecuador	2			1				2			3		3	
Guatemala														
Mexico	6	3	1	8	5	3		7	2	1	18	4	10	4
Nicaragua														
Panama														
Paraguay														
Peru	1			2		1	1		1		3		2	1
Uruguay			1		1						1		1	
Venezuela	4			2	4		2				6		4	2
Latin America (General)	2	1	2	1	1	4			1		6		4	2
Spain						1	1				2		2	
Philippines														
Totals	23	9	15	24	17	17	11	16	9	1	71	12	44	15

Chart II: Analysis of Articles Published during 1980.

Country	Period				Topical Emphasis						
	Col.	Nat'l.	19th C.	20th C.	Pol.	Dipl.	Econ.	Soc.	In-tel.	Gen.	Total
Argentina	2	1	1			1		3			4
Bolivia	2							2			2
Brazil	1		2		2		1				3
Caribbean			1					1			1
Central America			1				1				1
Chile			1	1	1		1				2
Colombia											
Cuba				1					1		1
Mexico	2			2	2			1		1	4
Paraguay											
Peru											
Venezuela											
Latin America (General)											
Spain											
Total	7	1	6	4	5	1	3	7	1	1	18

In spite of Mexico's marked dominance in submissions during the 1979-1980 year, Argentina tied with Mexico for the highest number of articles published during 1980 (4 each, or 22.22 percent); Brazil followed with 3 (16.67 percent). Over the five-year period, 1976-1980, Mexico accounted for 26.74 percent of all articles published, Brazil 17.44 percent, and Argentina 10.47 percent. The figures for Texas are quite similar with 26.6 percent of all articles published treating Mexico and 18.09 percent Brazil. Peru, however, slightly outdistanced Argentina during the Texas editorship with 10.64 and 8.51 percent, respectively.

In terms of chronological emphasis, more articles were submitted on the colonial period during the last year (23 articles or 32.39 percent) than in the previous year (19 articles or 26.39 percent). Nonetheless, colonial manuscripts furnished nearly 40 percent of all articles published both in 1980 and during the full five-year period of Arizona's editorship. This actually represented a decrease in colonial articles published from the Texas period where the figure was 47.87 percent in spite of a submissions breakdown which closely approximated that of Arizona (31.92 percent). Although Texas accepted a higher percentage of colonial articles than did Arizona, it is interesting to note that in both cases the percentage of colonial acceptances was substantially higher than those for the national period. During the Arizona editorship, articles on the period since independence in both the submitted and published categories have tended to divide fairly evenly between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The breakdown by topical emphasis illustrates that articles submitted on political and economic history during the last year declined from the previous reporting year (from 33.33 to 23.94 percent and from 23.61 to 15.49 percent, respectively). Articles treating social history constituted 22.54 percent of submissions, a gain over the previous year, but still lower than our five-year average. Diplomatic submissions represented a marked increase over the previous year, climbing from 12.5 to 23.94 percent. Most of these articles however, were based almost exclusively on U.S. sources and did not fall within our guidelines that

Chart III: Analysis of Articles Received July 1, 1975-June 30, 1980.

Country	Period			Topical Emphasis							Disposition			
	Col.	Nat'l. C.	19th C.	20th C.	Pol.	Dipl.	Econ.	Soc.	In-tel.	Gen.	Total	Acc.	Rej.	Pend-ing
Argentina	7	2	18	7	10	1	4	14	5		34	10	21	3
Bolivia	4	1	1	3	2	1	1	5			9	3	6	
Brazil	11	13	24	21	17	9	15	24	4		69	15	54	
Caribbean	5	1	4	6	2	6	1	5	1	1	16	4	12	
Central America	2	0	5	5	5	4	2	1			12	2	8	2
Chile	4	4	14	4	5	4	7	2	4		22	6	15	1
Colombia	2	2	8	4	8	4	2	3	3		16	3	13	
Cuba	3	1	6	7	4	4	4	2	2		16	5	11	
Ecuador	3	1	1	1	1	3	2	4			10	10	0	
Guatemala	1										3	1	2	
Mexico	37	6	17	39	24	14	14	32	11	4	99	25	70	4
Nicaragua	2	2			2	2					2	2		
Panama	2	2	1	2	1	2	1			1	5	1	4	
Paraguay	2	2	2		1	1		3			4	1	3	
Peru	8	3	2	4	6	1	3	6	1		17	4	12	1
Uruguay			1		1	1					1	1	1	
Venezuela	6			7	7	1	4	1			13		11	2
Latin America (General)	13	4	8	7	2	10	2	10	5	3	32	5	25	2
Spain	13	1	1	1	4	1	1	4	4	2	16	4	12	1
Philippines	1				1						1			
Totals	118	42	113	124	101	64	65	116	40	11	397	89	293	15

Chart IV: Analysis of Articles Published during 1976–1980.

Country	Period				Topical Emphasis						
	Col.	Nat'l.	19th C.	20th C.	Pol.	Dipl.	Econ.	Soc.	In-tel.	Gen.	Total
Argentina	3	1	4	1	1	1	2	5			9
Bolivia	2		1	1	1		2	2			3
Brazil	4	2	6	3	2	3	3	5	2		15
Caribbean	2		1	1	1	1		2			4
Central America			3	1		1	3				4
Chile		2	3	1	2		1	2	1		6
Colombia	1	1	1		1			2			3
Cuba	1		1	3	2		1		2		5
Mexico	11	2	2	8	5	2	6	7		3	23
Paraguay			1					1			1
Peru	3			1	2			2			4
Venezuela											
Latin America (General)	4	1	1		2			2	2		6
Spain	3				1			1		1	3
Total	34	9	23	20	20	8	16	31	7	4	86

diplomatic history articles must reflect the views of the Latin American countries themselves. For the full five-year period, submissions on social history dominated (29.22 percent), followed by political (25.44 percent), economic (16.37 percent), diplomatic (16.12 percent) and intellectual (10.08 percent). The only marked difference between the last five years and the preceding five is that during the Texas editorship submissions treating political history led those on social history (26.79 percent and 21.88 percent, respectively). During the past ten years, the trend toward social history has been the noticeable shift in topical emphasis. There has also been a slight increase in numbers of articles treating economic history (from 14.51 percent during the Texas period to 16.37 percent for the Arizona tenure). However, because our categorization separates social and economic history, those articles which treat socioeconomic history tend to be entered under the social category. Therefore the increase in economic history submissions is probably greater than indicated here.

How do these submissions rates in a topical breakdown compare with the figures for articles published? During our five-year period, manuscripts on social history have accounted for 36.05 percent of all articles published, only slightly more than the 35.11 percent of the Texas editorship. During our last year, social history articles constituted 38.89 percent of articles published. Proportionately, the number of articles published on social history has tended to be somewhat higher than the figure for manuscripts submitted in that category. Political history follows with 23.26 percent of articles published between 1976 and 1980, a slight drop from the Texas average of 26.6 percent. Economic history is third with 18.6 percent (compared with 19.15 percent at Texas).

Foreign authors continue to be attracted to the HAHR as an avenue for publication. In the last year, we received 14 foreign submissions, 6 from Canada, 4 from England, 2 from Colombia, and one each from Venezuela and Brazil. In the five-year period, we have received a total of 58 articles from foreign authors. Nine of these were accepted (15.52 percent), representing a lower acceptance rate than that for U.S. authors (23.6 percent).

In the final reporting year, our record on average time span between article submissions, editorial decisions, and actual publication continued to be satisfactory. Decisions were reached about forty-six days after articles were received in the office (compared with forty-four days in the previous year). Actual publication resulted, on the average, eleven months after original submission. This represented an improvement of slightly more than a month over the 1978–1979 year.

The Arizona editors, following in the tradition of their predecessors, tended to emphasize the importance of analysis as well as original research as criteria for publication and to maintain a balance between the work of experienced scholars (46 percent) and newcomers to the profession (54 percent). During our five-year period, men have written 79 percent of all articles published although the percentage of women authors rose during the last two-year period to 32 percent. The *HAHR* continues to attract authors from broad ideological and methodological spectra and to publish, for the most part, highly specialized research.