

**Maranhense magazine: first vehicle the communication in  
science of Maranhão state**

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**Abstract**

The Communication in Science communication have a fundamental significance in the demystification of science and approach between society and scientific discoveries . In the history of the dissemination and propagation of science, several initiatives were gradually influenced the development of a scientific consciousness. By observing the movement of the scientist Maranhão in the end of nineteenth and early twentieth century, we find the Maranhense Magazine : Arts , Sciences and Letters , a channel of scientific and literary development . This journal is a milestone in the dissemination and popularization of science in the state of Maranhão, written at a time when intellectuals maranhenses wished to return to the past glories of Athens known as Brazilian . The proposed study Maranhense Magazine: Arts , Letters and Sciences is based on the desire to rescue the historical memory of popular science in the state of Maranhão , since this journal represents the aspirations of intellectuals with social progress , scientific and educational . Is this rescue that also proposes to observe the present scenario of Maranhão in relation to science and its development , considering that one of the legacies of the Journal Maranhense was drawing attention , through their articles, to the problem of illiteracy , as well as the need to fight it promoting education . Similarly to the early twentieth century, there are several initiatives to promote the approach of Maranhão to scientific development . Today, the State has the Foundation for Research Support - FAPEMA , semiannual journal that publishes Innovation , a channel for the publication of scholarly articles and scientific support . Another important means of disseminating scientific Maranhão is the Radio Science program, broadcast twice a day on FM Radio

Universidade . In addition to the shares for the Laboratory Science Communication Science Island ( LDC Island Science ) , pioneering project of the Department of Physics, Federal University of Maranhão - UFMA , that as science museum open to the public , has been serving students from public and particular. Developed as a generator of Science, the Laboratory has scientific environment and conducive to the development of education and expansion of scientific knowledge, thus contributing to the expansion and the dissemination of science in the country, especially in the state of Maranhão.

### **Introduction**

Science communication plays a fundamental role in the demystification of science and approximation between society and scientific discoveries. In the history of the divulgation and propagation of science, several initiatives were gradually influencing in the development of a scientific consciousness. When we observe the scientific movement in Maranhão of the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century's, we find the Maranhense Magazine: Arts, Sciences and Letters, a channel for divulgation scientific and literary foment. This periodical is a landmark in the dissemination and popularization of science in the state of Maranhão, written at a time when the Maranhão intellectuals wished to return to the glories of the past known as the Brazilian Athens. The proposed to study Maranhense Magazine: Arts, Sciences and Letters is based on the wish to recover the historical memory of the science in the state of Maranhão, since this magazine represents the aspirations of intellectuals with social, scientific and educational progress. It is this rescue that also proposes to observe the current scenario of state of Maranhão in relation to science and its development, considering that one legacy of Maranhense Magazine was calling attention, through their articles, to the problem of analphabetism (illiteracy), as well as the need to fight by education.

Similarly to the early twentieth century, there was several initiatives to promote the approximation of the citizen of state of Maranhão with scientific development. Today, the state has the Foundation for Research Support - FAPEMA, which publishes semiannually a Innovation Magazine, a channel for the publication of scholarly articles and scientific fomenting. Another important channel of scientific publication in Maranhão is the Science Radio program, aired twice daily on Radio FM University, radio

of the Federal University of Maranhão (UFMA). Added to this action the Laboratory of Communication Scientific Isle of Science (Isle of Science), pioneer project of the Department of Physics at UFMA, that as science museum open to the public, to attend public and private school students.

Developed as a generator science center, the Ilha da Ciencia (Isle of Science) has a environment scientific and propitious for the development of education and expansion of scientific knowledge and this way contributing to the expansion and the dissemination of science in the country, especially in the state of Maranhão.

### **Maranhense Magazine: Results e Discussion**

The second half of the nineteenth century had a great advance of science as well as the effects of the Industrial Revolution, which changed the relationship between humans. This event transformed the art and, in particular, like the literature was representing the world. The sentiments give way to a more objective look at the society in a reversal of the Romantic Movement to get to the aesthetic behavior of Realism.

Under these circumstances of seduction of positivism and spectators of the Industrial Revolution to their widespread changes in lifestyle and culture, "the realists who defended a literary art diametrically opposed to the romantic [...] Instead of subjectivism, proposed objectivity, supported the positive idea of the actual fact, in place of imagination, the fact contingent". In a real process of adherence to scientific fact, as proposed by Moisés.

Rationalists, as demanded scientism of the time, sought to impersonal and universal, individual not true, as the Romantics thought. And the truth was located, in his view, in fact, conceived as the world of physical, phenomena susceptible to capture by the senses.<sup>1]</sup>

It is under this lens, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century's, the feeling of transformation and personal change begins to dominate the people of Maranhão. Young met, talked and wrote about the "Maranhão Literary Past (Maranhão

Literário do Passado)”, always looking back the practices that marked the arts, science and literature.

At this time, there were various initiatives which the subject was to arouse interest the local population in science and arts. One is the People's University, and then the School Test. Both one and the other are marked by the desire to revive the prestige of the past. Conferences were held in the halls of the State Library of Maranhão, promoting debates there and warm conversations about literary issues.

As a result of this initiative is published the Maranhense Magazine: Arts, Sciences and Letters, a monthly, literary and scientific journal, pointed as the first channel of science in the state of Maranhão, published in two versions, the first, 1887, and the second, , 1916.

The Maranhense Magazine exposes the historical conditions of social development of education in the State of Maranhão, also put then as the first channel relevant scientific publication to scientific development during the period in which they circulated. Their study allows to elucidate various aspects of culture, literature, language and society of that time in the State of Maranhão.

In 1887 were published only three numbers in the Maranhense Magazine. The information was obtained from this period were acquired through the newspaper "The Diary of Maranhão."

The Diary of Maranhão also did publicity for the magazine signatures. The signatures could be quarterly. Readers were encouraged to write articles for publication. In a note: "[...] this journal that for now appears monthly containing not less than 16 pages of print in four aims to provide the maranhenses the publication of his literary and scientific productions." <sup>ii</sup>

Currently, these first copies of the magazine are disappeared Maranhense Public Library Benedito Leite. The first version of this last reference is also made by the Diary of Maranhão December 23, 1887: "For serious grounds cease to be published in

December current fourth number Maranhense Magazine, to which will begin in the second semester." <sup>iii</sup>

The Maranhense Magazine reborn on March 12, 1916, result of the union of two newspapers: "The Student (O Estudante)", of the Student Society of Machado de Assis, and "The Will (A Vontade)", Journal of a group of young man who dedicated themselves to literature, and that wished to publish a periodical in good format, to express their aspirations for progress and the desire to recall the glorious past of Maranhão.

It was a periodical what circulated in São Luís, capital of Maranhão' State, and in the main cities in the state of Maranhão as: Caxias, arari, Icatú, Bacuri, Rosario, Chapadinha, Cururupu, Pedreiras, Brejo, Bairro Vermelho, Ponta Nova, São Vicente de Ferreer. However, the movement was not limited to Maranhão, also reached the city of Belém do Pará result of the work of dissemination of the collaborators, including many teachers what worked these cities.

The Maranhense Magazine was a vehicle for communication who represented the aspirations of young intellectuals worried with the development: economic, social and political of state of Maranhão.

[...] Your articles reported their feelings about the context around them, revealing the economic, social and educational problems of the state in an attempt to to warn about its causes, and to elucidate the paths for the appropriate solutions to the problems." <sup>iv</sup>

As a result of scientific development in the first two decades of the twentieth century, there were two great initiatives to positivist intellectuals in Maranhão: the Universidade Popular ( People's University) (1909-1910) and the "Escola de Ensaio" (1919-1924).

The Maranhense Magazine: Arts, Sciences and Letters integrates this process of cultural effervescence, promoting debate on scientific issues and development: economic, social and political state of Maranhão, with varied subjects, with texts and Poems that dissertavam about war, Naturism , Bacterioterapia, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Medicine, and other subjects of interest to the society of the time.

Other events what marked this period, was the first attempts at implementation of Universities in the State of Maranhão with the School of Agricultural Learning Cristino Cruz. However, the first College of Higher Education, the Law School, is founded only on April 28, 1918, boosted by Maranhão intellectuals.

The neediness and necessity of Faculty of Higher Education in the State of Maranhão were latent. Therefore, the foundation of the Faculty of Law was received with euphoria by the editors of the Maranhense Magazine. The Maranhense Magazine of the May 1918 was full of texts and related articles Faculty of Law: "And so it seems that the Maranhão awakens the deep lethargy that both weakened. Today, the Law School, today the electric light, then pull, and so we continuing with the progress that seems real."<sup>v</sup>

### **Conclusion**

The relevance of research on the science communication is to institute this activity as part of daily life society, and the scientific in educational institutions. The Maranhense Magazine is proof that science may be is closer to people, as it proves itself as a vehicle of communication besides disclose their time, which contributes to realize the need to associate science with the more constructive aspects and deeper daily life as art, culture, history and philosophy

The interest of the youth of the early twentieth century by the literary and science, the desire to, as well as their teachers, remembering the glories of the past, coupled the will of Maranhão turn the society through scientific and educational progress, marked the Maranhense Magazine. In each of your pages is recorded the wish of intellectuals to put in question matters of general interest, such as the discussion of educational policies.

## Notes

<sup>i</sup> MOISÉS, Massaud. **História da literatura brasileira**. vol. II. São Paulo: Cultrix, 2001, p.15.

<sup>ii</sup> DIÁRIO DO MARANHÃO, n. 4.217, São Luís, 1887.

<sup>iii</sup> Id., n. 4.288, São Luís, 1887.

<sup>iv</sup> COLETÂNEA..., 2007, p. 9.

<sup>v</sup> REVISTA MARANHENSE, nº. 26 e 27, 1918.

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