Phytopathological Society meeting in Mexico City. As several American scientific societies are planning to hold meetings in Mexico City in the near future, I submit the following letter, signed by 83 members of the American Phytopathological Society.

The American Phytopathological Society held its annual meeting in Mexico City on August 6 to August 10. Many foreign graduate students (including nationals of Taiwan, India, and Lebanon) who are presently studying in the United States, as well as a few faculty members of foreign nationality, were unable to obtain visas to attend the meeting. This occurred even though they were members of the society and in many cases were on the program to present research papers. While the Mexican government does not have an official policy which excludes the entry of these foreign nationals, the lack of communication between the central government and the various consulates in the United States prevented these people from obtaining the necessary visas required for entry. Whereas, we strongly disagree with any country whose policy prevents the entry of a foreign scientist to attend a scientific meeting, we specifically protest this action (in fact inaction) by the Mexican government.

In addition, we would strongly urge other American scientific societies who are planning to hold meetings in Mexico to reconsider unless all graduate students and faculty who are in the United States are allowed to attend the meeting.

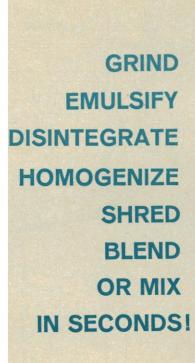
We hope that the Mexican government can pinpoint the specific problem and take the necessary steps to correct it

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## The Hubble Variable?

It is difficult for professional scientists to keep abreast of advances in other professions. One method which politicians have discovered for making easy the solution of very difficult problems is the Semantic Method. With that in mind, my offering to relieve the distress of the astronomical fraternity with respect to the changes in the Hubble constant (see W. D. Metz, Research News, 10 Nov. 1972, p. 600) is this—why not call it the Hubble variable?

CHARLES W. PROCTOR, JR. 3784 Andrew Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45209

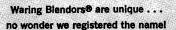




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