Claude Elwood Shannon (1916-2001)

D'après *Scientific American* **225** 180 (1971)

"My greatest concern was what to call it. I thought of calling it information*, but the word was overly used, so I decided to call it* uncertainty*. When I discussed it with John von Neumann, he had a better idea. Von Neumann told me,*

"You should call it entropy, for two reasons. In the first place your uncertainty function has been used in statistical mechanics under that name, so it already has a name. In the second place, and more important, no one really knows what entropy really is, so in a debate you will always have the advantage.""

