

Alfred Nobel and the Nobel Prizes



Lars Brink
Chalmers Univ. of Tech.
Gothenburg, Sweden

Alfred Bernhard Nobel



Born October 21, 1833
in Stockholm,
Died December 10, 1896
in San Remo

Chemist, engineer,
innovator, armaments
manufacturer and the
inventor of dynamite.

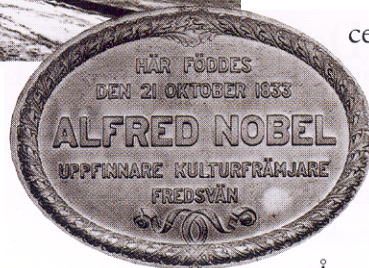
102

No

Nobelium



Norrlandsgatan 11



Andriette



Immanuel

In 1838 Immanuel moved to St. Petersburg. The family came in 1842. He was successful with *Fondéries & Ateliers Mécaniques Nobel (& Fils)*



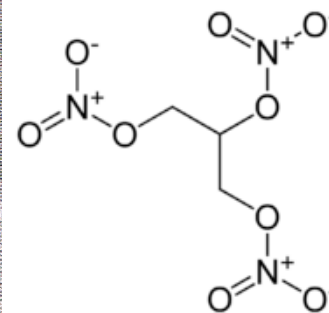
This house on 24 Petrogradskaya Embankment was where the Nobel family lived until 1859.

Alfred had private tutors. He became fluent in Swedish. French, Russian, English and German. Later he learnt Italian. He was very interested in literature but studied also chemistry.

In 1850 at the age of 17 he was sent out to Paris and also to USA to study chemistry.

He learnt about nitroglycerin that had been invented in 1847. He took this knowledge with him back to Russia.

After the Crimean war his father got broke again and the family except two brothers went back to Sweden.



1864

Nitroglycerin incorporated in kieselguhr
(diatomaceous earth) becomes safer and more
convenient to handle. This mixture was patented in
1867 as
DYNAMITE





He moved around in the world but settled
in Paris.

1873

PARIS



Over the years he founded factories and laboratories in some 90 different places in more than 20 countries.

Although he lived in Paris much of his life he was constantly travelling. Victor Hugo at one time described him as "Europe's richest vagabond". When he was not travelling or engaging in business activities Nobel himself worked intensively in his various laboratories.

Intensive work and travel did not leave much time for a private life. At the age of 43 he was feeling like an old man. He advertised for a secretary and supervisor of household.



1905



Bertha (Kinsky) von Suttner



Sofie Hess

SAN REMO



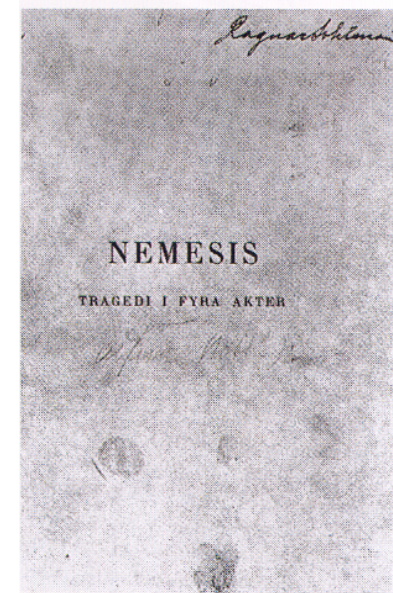
1890

BOFORS



1893
Björkborn





Published in Sweden, 2003

My dynamite will sooner lead to peace than a thousand world conventions. As soon as men will find that in one instant, whole armies can be utterly destroyed, they surely will abide by golden peace.

Alfred Nobel - The Inventor

Awarded 350 Patents...

...best invention.....

the Nobel Prize !

ALFRED Nobel's Will
Signed in Paris
November 27, 1895

Testament

Jag underskrifvar Alfred Bernhard
Nobel förklarar härmed efter moget
betränkande min yttersta vilja i afseende
i den egendomen jag vid min död kan ef-
terlämna vara följande:

Alfred Nobel min återstående ^{realiserade} förmögenhet förfogas
på följande sätt: Kapitalen, af utskönningsnämnden
realiserade till säkra värdepappers skall utjåna en
fond hvars ränta arligen utdelas som prisbelöning
åt dem som under det förlupne året hafva gjort min-
stetligast den största nytta. Råntan delas i fem lika
delar som tillfalla: en del den som inom fysiska
område har gjort den viktigaste upptäckten eller uppfin-
ning; en del den som har gjort den viktigaste kemiska
upptäckten eller förbättring; en del den som har gjort den
viktigaste upptäckten inom fysiklogien eller medicinens
område; en del den som inom litteraturen har producerat
det största värdet i idealiskt riktning; och en del åt den
som har verkat mest eller bäst för folkens förbättrande
och afseende eller minnelse af ständigt arnauer
samt höllande och upprätthållande af fredstingsprocesser.
Prisen för fysik och kemi utdelas af Svenska Vetens-
skapsakademien; för fysiklogien eller medicinens
arbeten af Carolska Institutet i Stockholm; för liti-
ratur af Akademien i Stockholm samt för fredsför-
fattaren till utdelas af fem personer som utjåns
af Norske Stortinget. Det är min ytterstliga
vilja att vid prisutdelningarna intas afseende
på det vid näppa slag nationalitetstillhörighet
sålunda att den värdigaste erhåller priset an-
tingen han är Skandinavier eller ej.

Detta testamente är beträffande det enda gilliga
och upphäfvat alla mina föregående testamentariska
bestämmelser om sådana skulle förefinnas efter min död.

Ytterstligen anordnar jag sådant förande min
ytterstliga önskan och vilja att efter min död
minnelseorden uppkäras och att sedan detta skett och
tydliga döds-testen af konfirmerade läkare intygats
likt förbrännas i så kallad cremationsugn.

Paris den 27 November
1895

Alfred Bernhard Nobel

.....The whole of my remaining realizable estate shall be dealt with in the following way:
the capital, invested in safe securities by my executors, shall constitute a fund, **the**
interest on which shall be annually distributed in the form of prizes to those who, during
the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind. The said interest
shall be divided into five equal parts, which shall be apportioned as follows:

one part to the person who shall have made the most important
discovery or invention within the field of physics;

one part to the person who shall have made the most important
chemical discovery or improvement; one part to the person who shall have made the
most important discovery within the domain of physiology or medicine; one part to the
person who shall have produced in the field of literature the most outstanding work in
an ideal direction; and one part to the person who shall have done the most or the best
work for fraternity between nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and
for the holding and promotion of peace congresses. The prizes for physics and chemistry

shall be awarded by the Swedish Academy of Sciences; that for physiological or medical
work by the Caroline Institute in Stockholm; that for literature by the Academy in Stockholm,
and that for champions of peace by a committee of five persons to be elected by the Norwegian

Storting. It is my express wish that in awarding the prizes **no consideration whatever shall be**
given to the nationality of the candidates, but that the most worthy shall receive the prize,
whether he be Scandinavian or not.

*Paris den 27 November
1895
Alfred Bernhard Nobel*



Ragnar Sohlman

Engineer and assistant to Nobel.

He was the one to execute the will of Nobel.

Nobel Foundation

Prize-Awarding Institutions:

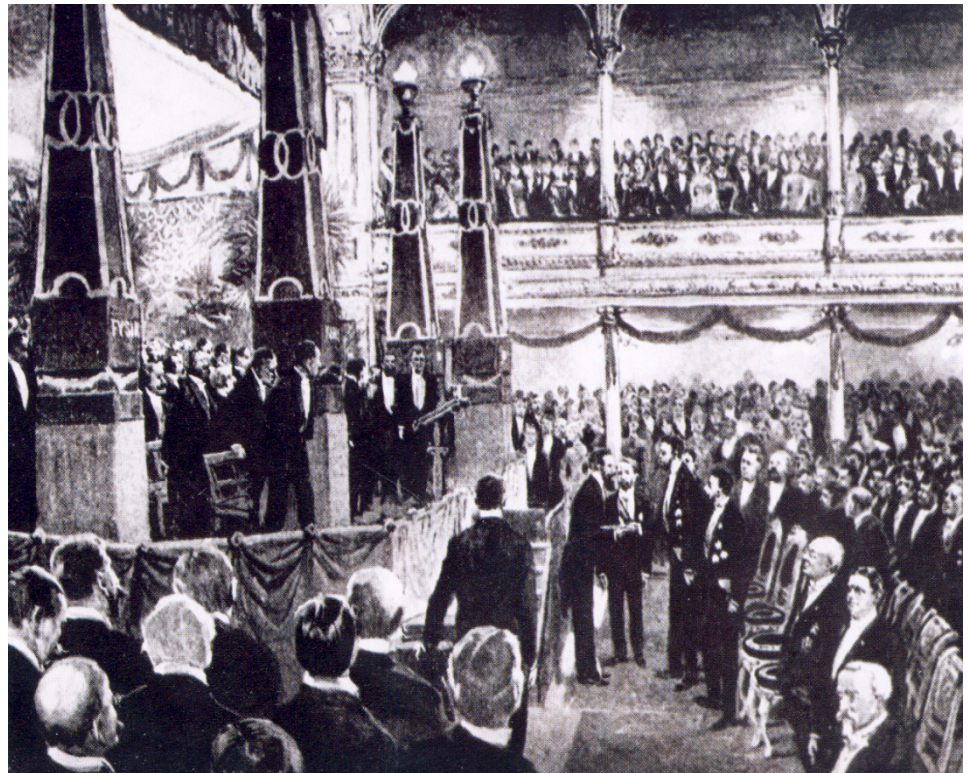
Physics	Royal Academy of Sciences
Chemistry	Royal Academy of Sciences
Medicine	Karolinska Institute
Literature	Swedish Academy
Peace	Norwegian Parliament

1901

"in recognition of the extraordinary services he has rendered by the discovery of the remarkable rays subsequently named after him"



Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen



one part to the person who shall have made the most important discovery or invention within the field of physics;

Most important discovery

- *not life-time achievement*
- *not the second discoverer who did it much better*
- *not the one who did the most beautiful experiment*
- *not a theoretical discovery that has not been experimentally verified*

Not always the best physicist who gets the prize

Not development



Arnold Sommerfeld

pioneer in the early quantum physics
advisor to a number of laureates
leader for a whole generation of German
physicists

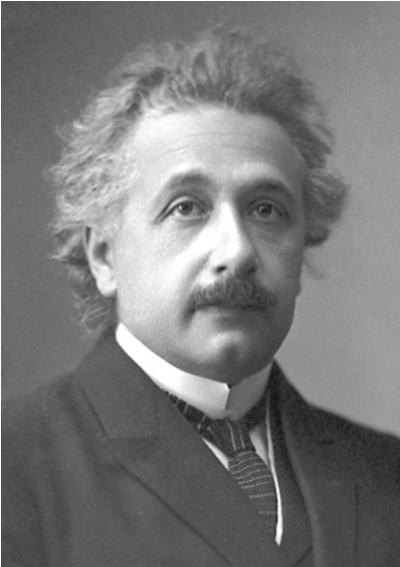


John Wheeler

pioneer in nuclear, particle physics,
gravitation..
advisor to many american physicists

Leaders but not Laureates

not collected work



Albert Einstein 1921

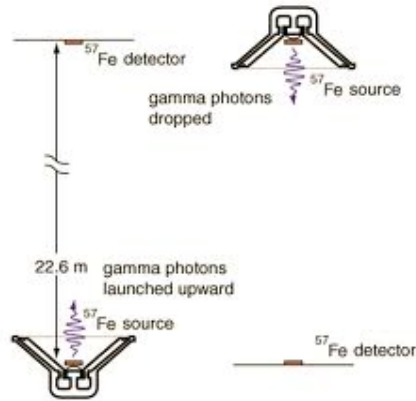
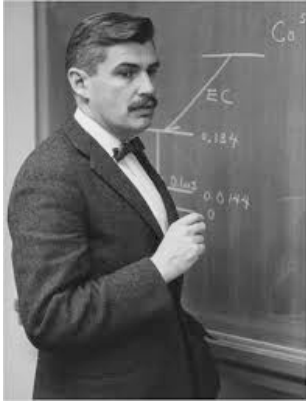
for his services to Theoretical Physics
and especially for his discovery of
the law of the photoelectric effect



Hans Bethe 1967

for his contributions to the theory
of nuclear reactions, especially his
discoveries concerning the energy
production in stars

not for the most beautiful experiment



Phys. Rev. Letters
VOLUME APRIL 1, 1960

APPARENT WEIGHT OF PHOTONS

R. V. Pound and G. A. Rebka, Jr.
Lyman Laboratory of Physics,
Harvard University, Cambridge,
Massachusetts

Confirmed the equivalence principle.
(few mistrusted it)

not a theoretical discovery that has not been experimentally verified



Stephen Hawking

Communications in Mathematical Physics
25. VIII. 1975, Volume 43, Issue 3, pp 199-220

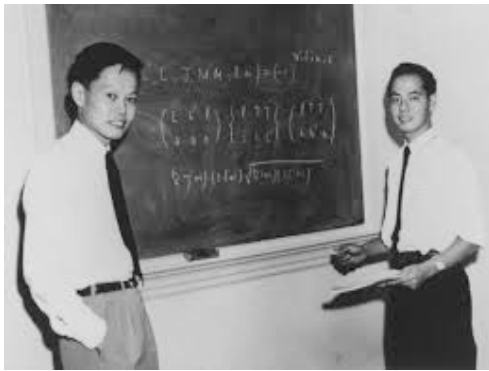
Particle creation by black holes

A fantastic discovery which obviously is correct.
Has not been experimentally verified.

A discovery should have scientific height

It should be a water shed

**Chen Ning Yang och
Tsung-Dao Lee 1957**



for their penetrating investigation of
the so-called parity laws which has led
to important discoveries regarding
the elementary particles

We like to point to **one paper**



Hannes Alfvén 1970

for fundamental work and discoveries
in magnetohydro-dynamics with
fruitful applications in different parts
of plasma physics

Nature **150**, 405-406 (1942)

Existence of Electromagnetic-Hydrodynamic Waves

IF a conducting liquid is placed in a constant magnetic field, every motion of the liquid gives rise to an E.M.F. which produces electric currents. Owing to the magnetic field, these currents give mechanical forces which change the state of motion of the liquid.

Thus a kind of combined electromagnetic-hydrodynamic wave is produced which, so far as I know, has as yet attracted no attention.

The phenomenon may be described by the electrodynamic equations

$$\text{rot } H = \frac{4\pi}{c} i$$

$$\text{rot } E = - \frac{1}{c} \frac{dB}{dt}$$

$$B = \mu H$$

$$i = \sigma \left(E + \frac{v}{c} \times B \right);$$

together with the hydrodynamic equation

$$\partial \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{1}{c} (i \times B) - \text{grad } p,$$

where σ is the electric conductivity, μ the permeability, ∂ the mass density of the liquid, i the electric current, v the velocity of the liquid, and p the pressure.

Consider the simple case when $\sigma = \infty$, $\mu = 1$ and the imposed constant magnetic field H_0 is homogeneous and parallel to the z -axis. In order to study a plane wave we assume that all variables depend upon the time t and z only. If the velocity v is parallel to the x -axis, the current i is parallel to the y -axis and produces a variable magnetic field H' in the x -direction. By elementary calculation we obtain

$$\frac{d^2 H'}{dz^2} = \frac{4\pi\partial}{H_0^2} \frac{d^2 H'}{dt^2},$$

which means a wave in the direction of the z -axis with the velocity

$$V = \frac{H_0}{\sqrt{4\pi\partial}}.$$

Waves of this sort may be of importance in solar physics. As the sun has a general magnetic field, and as solar matter is a good conductor, the conditions for the existence of electromagnetic-hydrodynamic waves are satisfied. If in a region of the sun we have $H_0 = 15$ gauss and $\partial = 0.005$ gm. cm.⁻³, the velocity of the waves amounts to

$$V \sim 60 \text{ cm. sec.}^{-1}.$$

This is about the velocity with which the sunspot zone moves towards the equator during the sunspot cycle. The above values of H_0 and ∂ refer to a distance of about 10^{10} cm. below the solar surface where the original cause of the sunspots may be found. Thus it is possible that the sunspots are associated with a magnetic and mechanical disturbance proceeding as an electromagnetic-hydrodynamic wave.

The matter is further discussed in a paper which will appear in *Arkiv för matematik, astronomi och fysik*.

H. ALFVÉN.

Kgl. Tekniska Högskolan,
Stockholm.
Aug. 24.



Nobelpriset 2013

The Nobel Prize 2013

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2013



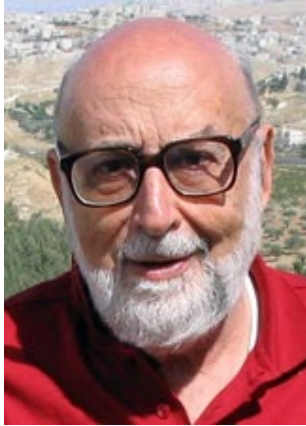
François Englert
Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium



Peter W. Higgs
University of Edinburgh, UK

”För den teoretiska upptäckten av en mekanism som bidrar till förståelsen av massans ursprung hos subatomära partiklar, och som nyligen, genom upptäckten av den förutsagda fundamentala partikeln, bekräftats av ATLAS- och CMS-experimenten vid CERN:s accelerator LHC.”

“For the theoretical discovery of a mechanism that contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles, and which recently was confirmed through the discovery of the predicted fundamental particle, by the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN’s Large Hadron Collider.”



François Englert



Peter Higgs

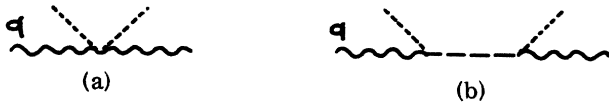


FIG. 1. Broken-symmetry diagram leading to a mass for the gauge field. Short-dashed line, $\langle\phi_1\rangle$; long-dashed line, ϕ_2 propagator; wavy line, A_μ propagator. (a) $\rightarrow (2\pi)^4 i e^2 g_{\mu\nu} \langle\phi_1\rangle^2$, (b) $\rightarrow -(2\pi)^4 i e^2 (q_\mu q_\nu / q^2) \times \langle\phi_1\rangle^2$.

$$B_\mu = A_\mu - (e\varphi_0)^{-1} \partial_\mu \Delta\phi_1, \quad G_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu B_\nu - \partial_\nu B_\mu$$

$$\partial_\nu G^{\mu\nu} + e^2 \varphi_0^2 B^\mu = 0, \quad \partial_\mu B^\mu = 0$$

HOW ?

Nobel Committee for Physics

- 5 regular members (3-year periods, max 9 y)
- Chairperson, max 3 y
- Adjoint members (1-4, change each year)
- Secretary (no time limit)

Nobel committee for physics 2013

Lars Brink, chairman

Olga Botner

Per Delsing

Olle Inganäs

Anne L'Huillier

Mats Jonson

Mats Larsson

Lars Bergström, secretary

September 2012



Nomination for the Nobel Prizes

Each year the respective Nobel Committees send individual invitations to thousands of members of academies, university professors, scientists from numerous countries, previous Nobel Laureates, members of parliamentary assemblies and others, asking them to submit candidates for the Nobel Prizes for the coming year. These nominators are chosen in such a way that as many countries and universities as possible are represented over time.

The Process

- Invitation to nominate (before February 1):
 - Royal Academy members
 - Members of the Nobel Committee
 - Previous Nobel laureates
 - Nordic physics professors
 - Physics professors at selected universities (change every year)

How the Committee works:

Evaluation (by committee members and assessment by external experts):

Prize-worthiness, possible citation for Prize

Yearly statement from the Committee:

Review of all fields of physics

Committee proposal by end of August, can be accepted or rejected by the KVA Physics Class, which meets twice in September

Recommendation to the Academy

Final selection in Academy plenary session - Press conference
first Tuesday in October: www.kva.se, www.nobelprize.org

Prize Award Ceremony, December 10

Regulations

Maximum 3 laureates

Divided Prize, or joint Prize

Full Prize: 8 MSEK \approx 0,9 M€ \approx 1,3 M\$

Deliberations secret for 50 y

In physics and chemistry, no Prize to organizations or large collaborations (yet). However, this can be decided by the Academy itself (as has been done in Norway for the Peace Prize).

As of 2013,

47 Physics Prizes have been given to **one** Laureate only.

31 Physics Prizes have been shared by **two** Laureates.

29 Physics Prizes have been shared between **three** Laureates.

2013

- September 11

First meeting with and presentation of the
"Kapprock" for Class 3 of the Royal Academy.

- September 25

Final meeting with Class 3.

Total silence

- October 8, 09:30

Presentation of the proposal from the Committee and Class 3
to all members of the Academy. Voting.

...This is a very important telephone call to
you from Stockholm, Sweden. Please do
not hang up....

Dec 10, 2008







Your Majesties, Your Royal Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,
"The Earth is round." This simple sentence contains so much. It shows how we human beings see the objects around us in symmetric shapes.....

小林先生、益川先生、

あなた方お二人、および南部先生は、素粒子物理学理論に取って不可欠である対称性の破れに関する画期的な業績によって2008年度のノーベル物理学賞を受賞されました。ここにスウェーデン王立科学アカデミーを代表して心からお喜び申し上げます。それでは、国王陛下よりノーベル賞の授与がありますので、前にお進みください

Professor Kobayashi, Professor Maskawa,
Together with Professor Nambu you have been awarded the 2008
Nobel Prize in Physics for your seminal works on broken
symmetries, which have been instrumental for the modern theories of
elementary particles. It is an honour for me to convey the warmest
congratulations of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. I now
ask you to step forward to receive your Nobel Prizes from the hands
of His Majesty the King.







*Kungliga
Svenska Vetenskapsakademien
har den 7 oktober 2008 beslutat
att med det*

NOBELPRIS

*som detta är tillerkännes den
som inom fysikens område gjort den
viktigaste upptäckten eller uppfinnningen
gemensamt belöna*

Makoto Kobayashi

aka: Toshihide Maskawa

*för upptäckten av ursprunget till det
särskilt intressanta som förutsäger att naturen
måste ha minst tre familjer av kvarkar*

● STOCKHOLM DEN 10 DECEMBER 2008 ●





Front



Back

The Banquet - City Hall of Stockholm













*Kungliga
Svenska Vetenskapsakademien*
har den 8 oktober 2013 beslutat att med det
NOBELPRIS

*som detta år tillerkännes den
som inom fysikens område gjort den
viktigaste upptäckten eller uppfinnningen
gemensamt belöna*

*François Englert
och Peter W. Higgs*

*för den teoretiska upptäckten av en mekanism som
bidrar till förståelsen av massans ursprung hos
subatomära partiklar, och som nyligen genom upptäckten av den förutsagda fundamentala partikeln,
bekräftats av ATLAS- och CMS-experimenten
vid CERN:s accelerator LHC.*

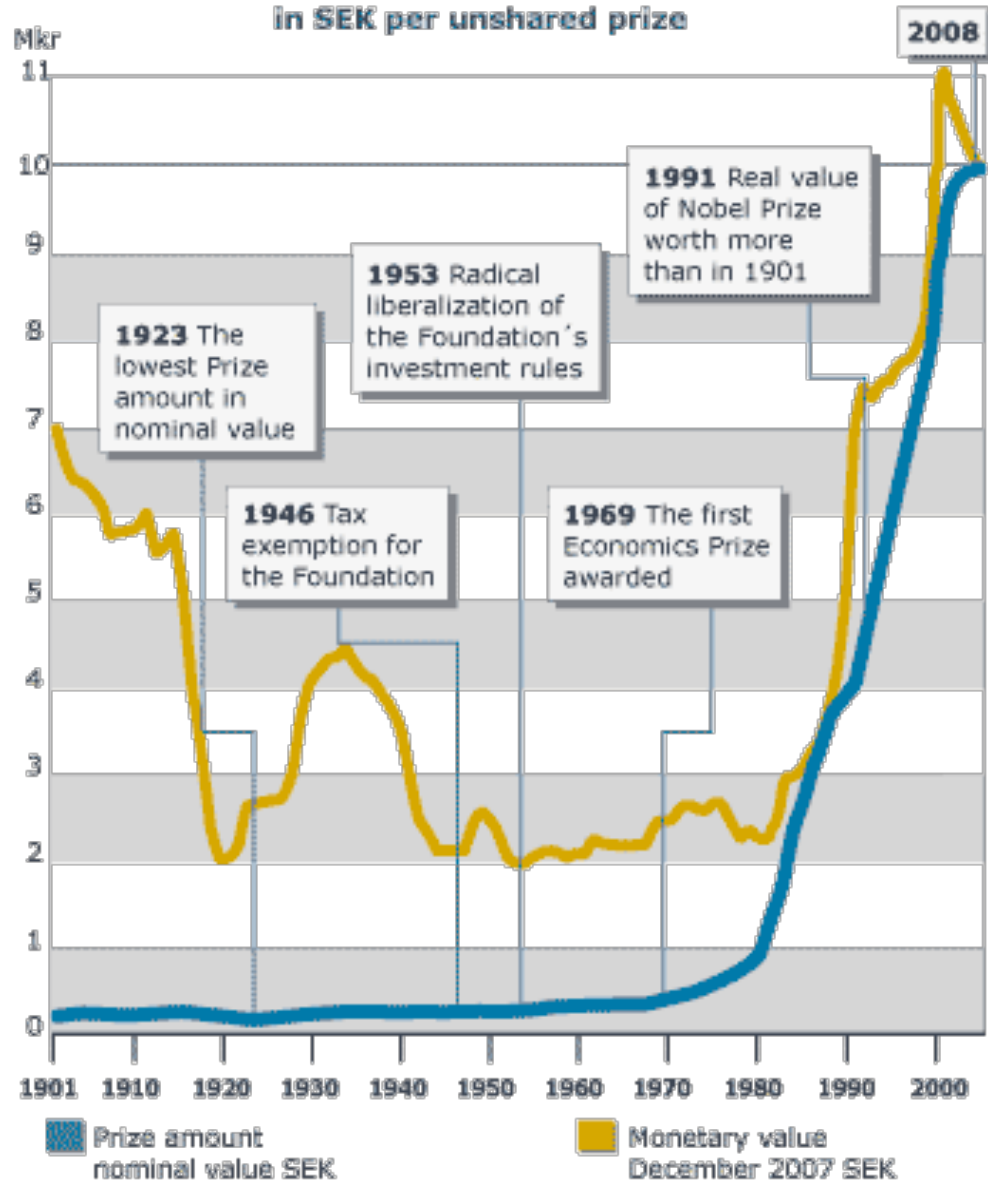
• STOCKHOLM DEN 10 DECEMBER 2013 •

Barbro Canner



Stefan Hultberg

Diagram comparing the nominal (monetary) Prize amount since 1901 with its real value in 2007 terms-
in SEK per unshared prize



10 000 000 SEK =

1 065 200 EUR

106 473 594 JPY

1 339 100 USD

851 476 GBP

1 284 538 CHF

40 551 500 RUB

4 965 736 ILS



KUNGLIGA SVENSKA VETENSKAPS-AKADEMIEN

har vid sitt sammantråde den **9 November 1922** i enlighet med föreskrifterna i det af

ALFRED NOBEL

den **27 November 1895** upprättade testamente beslutat att, oberoende af det värde som / efter eventuell bekräftelse / må tiller kännas / relativitetsteori och gravitations-teorier / övertänna det pris / som för **1921** bortgäles / åt den som inom fysikens område har gjort den viktigaste upptäckt eller uppfinning / till



ALBERT EINSTEIN

för hans förtjänster om den teoretiska fysiken / särskilt hans upptäckt af lagen för den fotoelektriska effekten

Stockholm den **10 December 1922**

M. S. Bergström

Kgl. Vet. Akad. Drott.

Ch. Arvidsson

Kgl. Vet. Akad. Sekreterare



...independent of the value which, after a possible confirmation, may be attributed to the theory of relativity and gravitation give the prize, which for 1921.....

VETENSKAPS-AKADEMIEN

har vid sitt sammantråde den **9 November 1922** i enlighet med föreskrifterna i det af

ALFRED NOBEL

den **27 November 1895** upprättade testamentera beslutat af /oberoende af det värde som /eller eventuell bekräftelse må tillerkännas /relativitetsteori och gravitationsteori /överlämna det pris /som för **1921** bortgäles /till den som inom fysikens område har gjort den viktigaste upptäckt eller uppfinnning /till



ALBERT EINSTEIN

för hans förtjänster om den teoretiska fysiken /särskilt hans upptäckt af lagen för den fotoelektriska effekten.

Stockholm den **10 December 1922**

M. Magnusson

Kgl. Vet. Akad. Dricks

...for his contributions to the theoretical physics and especially for his discovery of the law for the photoelectric effect.



11 July 1923