

Luis Leloir Banquet speech

Luis Leloir's speech at the Nobel Banquet in Stockholm, December 10, 1970

Your Majesty, Your Royal Highnesses, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The honour which I have received exceeds – by far – my most optimistic expectation.

The prestige of the Nobel Prize is such that one is suddenly promoted to a new status. In this new status I feel rather uneasy on considering that my name will join the list of the giants of chemistry such as [van't Hoff](#), [Fischer](#), [Arrhenius](#), [Ramsay](#), [von Baeyer](#) – to name only a few. I also feel uneasy when I think of contemporary chemists that have done great contributions and also when I think on my collaborators who carried out a great part of the work.

In spite of this I am profoundly grateful for having received from Your Majesty this great honour and to the Nobel Committee for Chemistry of the Royal Academy of Sciences for having selected me.

Finally, I might paraphrase [Churchill](#) and say: never have I received so much for so little.

From [Les Prix Nobel en 1970](#), Editor Wilhelm Odelberg, [Nobel Foundation], Stockholm, 1971
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