Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning suffered cold treatment: the Chinese won the Nobel Prize for the first time 60 years ago | Science Spring and Autumn

Original Hua Xinmin Wang Zuoyue Intellectuals 2017-11-26

The Nobel Prize in Physics 1957



Chen Ning Yang Prize share: 1/2



Tsung-Dao (T.D.) Lee

Prize share: 1/2

► Photos of Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning when they won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1957. Source: nobelprize.org

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In 1957, for the Chinese, a major event in the field of science and technology was that Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning won the Nobel Prize in Physics. This was the zero breakthrough for the Chinese in the list of winners. According to the traditional Chinese chronology, this year coincides with the occurrence of this incident. Of course it is a good time to review and commemorate.

The identity problem of Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning when they won the Nobel Prize

However, when we came to commemorate this event that made the Chinese feel proud, we found that people still have some misunderstandings about it. For example, according to our rough investigation, there is a view: Li and Yang won the Nobel Prize in Physics, and they have a certain degree of pride as Chinese, but after all, they received the award as Chinese Americans. Many people living in or from mainland China have this understanding when answering inquiries. There may be reasons why middle-aged people know this way, because since Nixon's visit to China in 1972 opened the door for Sino-US exchanges, Li Yang and other American scientists who visited China all appeared in mainland China as "Chinese-Americans". In the media, it's not surprising that those who enrolled in the 1970s and 1980s regarded them as Chinese-Americans since they were young. However, our investigation found that many people who are young and have a university education also think so. They were all primary and middle school students with memories in 1957. Most of them had no memory of what happened in 1957. Later, they learned about it, but the memory of Li Yang's identity turned out to be as young as There is not much difference between Li Yang and the Chinese Americans Ding Zhaozhong, Zhu Diwen and others who won the award later.

Such an understanding goes against historical facts. In recent years, the Internet and the media have clarified this issue. For example, Hua Xinmin, one of the authors of this article, pointed out in the Chinese Journal of Overseas Students in October 2000:

"When Li and Yang won the prize in 1957, they were 100% Chinese-not only were their bloodline Chinese, but their nationality at the time was also Chinese-but they were holding the passport of the Republic of China. Put the Republic of China Ji said that it is a foreign nationality. Doesn't that mean "two Chinas"? When Li and Yang went abroad in the 1940s, like Deng Jiaxian and others who later became the heroes of the "Republic" who developed nuclear bombs, they all took the passport of the Republic of China. After 1949, the United States recognized the Republic of China. Most of the Republic of China international students who were unwilling to return to their country would naturally continue to be their citizens of the Republic of China. Li and Yang are in this capacity I went to receive the first Nobel Prize won by a Chinese." (See "Nobel Prizes with Utterances", published in "China Digest" cm0010d)

Ten years ago, the mainland scholar Liu Ming also commented that Li Yang was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics:

"This is the first time that the Nobel Prize in Natural Science has been awarded to a Chinese (by descent plus the law), and it is the only time so far. (It refers to the year 2007-quoted note) in the official Nobel Prize On the website, Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning's passports clearly marked "China" in the "nationality" column, even though they were holding Republic of China passports at the time. In accordance with the one-China principle, legally speaking, they are of course Chinese citizens." (See "The Scientific and Cultural Significance of Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning's Discovery and Award-Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Chinese Scientists Won the Nobel Prize", Journal of the Party School of Zhejiang Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China (Hangzhou), Issue 1, 2007, pages 111-121)

However, these clarifications only appeared on overseas Chinese websites or academic journals aimed at a small number of readers. In addition, most Chinese people have not yet entered the Internet age more than a decade ago. This clarification is not for the majority of people in mainland China. Know. What's interesting is that over the years, the mainstream media in mainland China, government-published newspapers, radio and television, have also remained silent, allowing such misunderstandings to spread among the Chinese people, so that some seemingly authoritative publications have Everyone also goes. For example, in the "Encyclopedia of China-Physics II" on the list of "Nobel Prize Winners in Physics", Li Yang was annotated as "Chinese-American". This is a cloud of fog over this epoch-making event in the history of China's technological development. Now that a Jiazi has passed, it should be time to dispel these mists.

For this reason, it is necessary for us to first review how Li Yang's overthrow of the law of conservation of parity spread such a major scientific news, especially, how did this news spread among the global Chinese population? What impact did it have on the perception of Chinese people?

Very different: The Chinese media reported that Li Yang won the award 60 years ago

Due to China's news system, all kinds of newspapers and periodicals across the country used the "People's Daily" to report on major events, and they have very little freedom in interviews and reports. Let's take a look at how the People's Daily reported this incident at the time.

The winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1957 was announced on October 31. The news first appeared in the inconspicuous lower right of the fifth edition of the People's Daily on November 1, with the headline "I stay in America." The two scientists won the Nobel Prize", with a total of 225 characters including punctuation. (Picture 1, shown in red box)



▶ Figure 1 The fifth edition of People's Daily on November 1, 1957

On the first page of the second day, there was a message titled "Wu Youxun, Zhou Peiyuan, Qian Sanqiang, and Li Zhengdao Yang Zhenning":

"Xinhua News Agency reported on the 1st that the famous Chinese physicists Wu Youxun, Zhou Peiyuan and Qian Sanqiang sent a telegram to Chinese physicists Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning on behalf of the Chinese Physical Society on October 31, congratulating them for their research on the theory of atomic nuclei and elementary particles. Won the Nobel Prize in Physics. The message said: "Chinese physicists are proud of this gratifying event."

The full text removed the words "Xinhua News Agency 1st News", and the total number of words including punctuation marks 109. Although this news is ranked on the front page, it belongs to the most important position on the front page: the first page of that day has 11 news headlines, and the news of Li Yang's award is ranked in the lower right corner, three short messages from top to bottom. The first one in. What's more noteworthy is that the Chinese government did not state that Li and Yang won the award. Instead, three old scientists from the academic organization "Chinese Physical Society" sent a congratulatory message to both Li and Yang, and the content of the congratulatory message was also very "Save", only one sentence in the message was reported.

For comparison, let's take a look at how the People's Daily on October 6, 2015 handled the news that Tu Youyou won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine that year: Tu Youyou's award was announced on October 5, and the People's Daily The news was published the next day, and it was on the front page. (Picture 2), alongside the news of Tu won prize, also published a congratulatory letter from Li Keqiang as a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Premier of the State Council to the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine. The fourth edition published a long report, introducing in detail the grand occasion of the announcement of the winners of the Swedish Caroline Medical School the day before. The "standards"

of the Chinese government's handling of this incident and the publication of the news in "People's Daily" are much higher than the handling and reporting of Li Yang's Nobel Prize in 1957. The difference is clear.



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Figure 2 The front page of People's Daily on October 6, 2015

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It is also an event that is worthy of "joy and rush" as the Chinese won the Nobel Prize. The People's Daily reported fifty-eight years apart from the other, reflecting the disparity in the degree of enthusiasm of the Chinese government for these two events. . As we all know, Chinese media are official mouthpieces. In addition to the function of publishing news, they also have the function of delivering public opinion-oriented information to readers. The low-key report of the "People's Daily" on Li Yang's Nobel Prize reflects the Chinese government's hope that sixty years ago, the Chinese government hoped to use the "standards" of the news to convey "implications" beyond the news to the Chinese people: Li Yang won the Nobel Prize Don't be overly concerned and passionate about one thing. This partly explains the facts stated above: among the old people who had memory in 1957, they either had no memory of that year or had a vague memory, because most of their parents did not notice the SMS in the corner of the newspaper. Those parents who noticed the news-mostly senior intellectuals-understood the official meaning from the report's specifications: such things should not be talked about and can only be mentioned at home or in small circles of acquaintances. "People's Daily" only said in two reports, a total of more than 300 words, that "Chinese physicists are proud of this gratifying event", but did not point out that this is the first time that Chinese citizens have won the Nobel Prize. All media in mainland China are also aligned with the central government on this point. It's no wonder that only a few of the elderly today realize this, so that before Tu Youyou won the prize in 2015, many people were asking "When will the Chinese people win the Nobel Prize?" Until today (2017) October), "China News Weekly" also regarded 2015 as the first year for Chinese scientists to win the Nobel Prize: "The 2017 Nobel Prize is being announced in the past few days. Today is an old article from 2012. At that time, it was three years before Chinese scientists won the Nobel Prize for the first time." It can be seen that the

misconception that Li Yang was not a Chinese when he won the Nobel Prize in 1957 was so common and deep-rooted.

Breaking down from the beginning: why the reporting enthusiasm of the mainland media has plummeted

People cannot help asking, what is the reason for the simplicity of the report on Li Yang's award in 1957 by the People's Daily? Is it because the Chinese authorities with the power to report and make decisions lack understanding and pay little attention to the significance of the research results of Li and Yang? The historical record does not seem to support such a simple judgment, but shows the complicated international and domestic political background behind it. Scientific research is a common cause of mankind that transcends national boundaries, but once it enters the public sphere, political factors will inevitably intervene. Especially in China in 1957, the domestic anti-rightist struggle climax, the confrontation between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party, and the two major international parties The Cold War of the camp... is deeply or shallowly entangled with an event that originally belonged to the field of science. In order to clarify the ins and outs of it, it is necessary to follow the context of time to elaborate on this period of history from the beginning-

Examining the history of that year, the main paper that led Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning to win the Nobel Prize in Physics "Questioning the Conservation of Parity in Weak Interactions" was first published in the American Journal of Physical Review, Volume 104, October 1, 1956 In issue 1, at that time, Li Zhengdao was a professor in the Department of Physics at Columbia University, and Yang Zhenning was a professor at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study (Yang was visiting at Brookhaven National Laboratory at the time, so his paper had two

addresses). The challenge to the law of conservation of parity under weak interaction in their paper was confirmed by the experimental results of three groups of scientists in January 1957. The leaders of the two experimental groups were Wu Jianxiong and Leon Lederman, both of whom were also professors in the Department of Physics at Columbia. The paper in which Wu Jianxiong and Lederman reported the results of the experiment was also published on February 15th in Volume 105, Issue 4 of Physical Review, and both indicated that they were received on January 15th. The Department of Physics of Columbia University held a press conference at 2 pm on January 15th when the paper arrived in "Physics Review", solemnly announcing that the law of conservation of parity that modern physics has believed in for decades has been overturned. Li Zhengdao and Wu Jianxiong, Lederman and others attended the press conference. As a result, an academic progress immediately became a sensational big news, from a topic of concern to the academic community into a topic of the mass media.

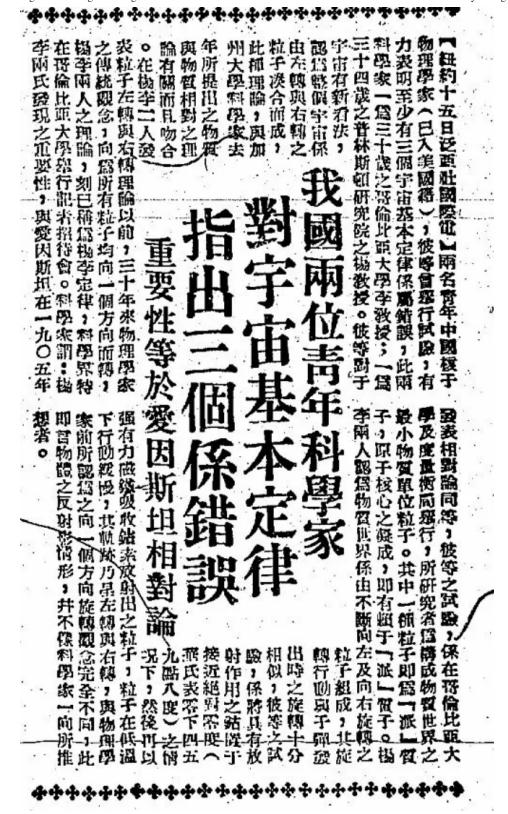
Scientific research in the United States is generally on the edge of social focus, and ordinary people do not care about high-level and abstract academic issues. Therefore, non-academic newspapers in the United States rarely report on scientific progress. However, on the second day of the Columbia University press conference, the New York Times, the largest newspaper in the United States, rarely reported the news of the press conference on the front page, with the headline "Basic concepts of physics allegedly overturned by experiments.", the subtitle is "The law of conservation of parity in nuclear theory is challenged by scientists from Columbia and Princeton Institutes." The New York Times also published a report on physics experiments released by Columbia University at the meeting. The New York Herald Tribune also published a report on the Columbia University press conference the day before on the same day, with the ti-

tle: "The'principle' of physics is wrong, the mirror reflection is not true", and a photo of Wu Jianxiong is attached. (Picture 3)



► Figure 3 "New York Herald Tribune" January 16, 1957

Since both Li and Yang are Chinese, the Chinese news agency and media stationed in New York will naturally respond as quickly as possible. For example, a news organization called "Pan Asia News Agency" sent out a telegram on January 15 with the headline "Two young scientists in my country pointed out that the importance of three errors in the basic laws of the universe is equal to Einstein's theory of relativity." . (See the second edition of Hong Kong "Business Daily" January 17, 1957) (Picture 4) Probably due to the rush to report, there are many obvious errors in the title and content. The report said: "Two young Chinese nuclear physicists (who are naturalized in the United States). They have conducted experiments and strongly showed that at least three basic laws of the universe are wrong. One of these two scientists is a 30-year-old Professor Li from Columbia University.; One is Professor Yang from the Princeton Research Institute at the age of 34." The reporter didn't even have time to figure out the Chinese names of Li and Yang, the nationality was also wrong, and the reporter obviously lacked basic scientific knowledge, let alone understood the meeting. The content of the introduction, the written Chinese report, and the experiment by Wu Jianxiong on the heads of Li and Yang, seemed very ridiculous to readers sixty years later.



▶ Figure 4 The second edition of Hong Kong "Business Daily" January 17, 1957

In comparison, Taiwan's "Central Daily News" published this news for the first time than the "Pan Asia News Agency". It reported on January 18, "Central News Agency, New York on the 16th United States" with the headline: "The law of reciprocity (referring to the law of conservation of parity, the same below-quoted note) was fundamentally shattered. Columbia University announced that we three scientists Contribute". Then on January 19, the "Central Daily News" reported the news of "Luo Jialun congratulates Wu Dayou", the article said:

"Central front, President of Tsinghua University Luo's, yesterday made a special trip home to Dr. Wu Ta-you, congratulations to the atomic scientists who return home soon, to congratulate his student Chen Ning Yang, Tsung-Dao Lee, and another one Central University graduate female student Wu Jianxiong (finger Wu Jianxiong-quoter's note), jointly made new discoveries and important amendments to a basic law in atomic physics-the law of reciprocity.... A few days before Dr. Wu came to Taiwan from the United States, Yang Zhenning and Li Zhengdao discussed with Dr. Wu for a few days about revising the law of reciprocity."

On January 27, the "Central Daily News" translated the full text of the physics experiment report issued by Columbia University at a press conference published by the New York Times on January 16.

Obviously, the Kuomintang government in Taiwan responded quickly and was very pleased with the latest scientific achievements of Li, Yang, and Wu, and expressed their congratulations and attention to these scientists studying in the US in various ways. In this regard, they have many favorable conditions: they have official representatives in the United States and the United Nations, and when Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning went abroad, they were sent by the National Government and they held passports of the Republic of China, whether they were government officials with them. Contact, or their relatives and friends in Taiwan communicate with them, the channels are very smooth.

For example, the "Central Daily News" published a picture of the Kuomintang government's Foreign Minister Ye Gongchao at a banquet for Li Zhengdao, Yang Zhenning and Wu Jianxiong's husband Yuan Jialiu on February 4 to show "the government's condolences." At that time, most Chinese in the United States also agreed with Taiwan's Republic of China government. On February 5th, Taiwan's "Central News Agency" released a New York special report: Chinese organization "China American Association" hosted a banquet in honor of Yang Zhenning, Li Zhengdao and Wu Jianxiong, "Chinese physicists who have recently gained worldwide reputation for overthrowing the principle of equivalence" ". (Yang Zhenning did not attend due to another appointment.) Hu Shi gave an introduction at the banquet, and then Li and Wu gave a brief speech to the audience. They said, "Their achievements are mainly encouraged by the maxims pointed out by Hu Shi-that is, the way to succeed in studying scholarship lies in bold assumptions, followed by careful verification." (See Zhongyang Daily, February 1957. 7th)

Compared with Taiwan, the Chinese mainland government had no diplomatic relations with the United States at that time, and there was almost no cultural and technological contact. Li Yang and Wu also have many relatives and mentors on the mainland, but there is no direct communication between China and the United States, so they can only transfer to Hong Kong and other places to maintain the only contact. The Chinese media can only learn about the latest contributions in the field of physics made by the three Li Yangwu working in the United States through the news released by the International News Agency. We do not know today when and through which channels Chinese scientists learned about the news released by the Department of Physics at Columbia University. However, according to an internal publication "Dynamics in Missions and Education" (collected by the Fairbank Center of Harvard University), an internal publication

for senior officials to read, it can be roughly determined that the names of Li Zhengdao, Yang Zhenning, and Wu Jianxiong and their research work were at the latest in the Department of Physics of Columbia University. One month after his press conference, he entered the vision of Chinese leaders. This "Public Education News" (February 17, 1957) published a report titled "The United States and Jiang vigorously promote the new discoveries of nuclear physics by my scientists studying in the United States." This report added some popular knowledge about the concept of "parity conservation", which is very accurate. Obviously, the report was written by an expert physicist or after consulting an expert. It is reasonable to infer that Chinese leaders were a little wary of the news released by Columbia University. I don't know if the work of Li, Yang and Wu is really important. They thought it was the "propaganda" of "Mei, Jiang". After a period of observation. Knowing that these propaganda are not falsehoods, they began to attach importance to major advances in this scientific field. The public media in mainland China reported on the matter a few days later on February 23. "People's Daily" published a Xinhua News Agency telegraph on the 22nd with the title "Nuclear Physics. A major discovery in my studies. Two scientists studying in the United States proved that the law of conservation of parity is not a universal law." (Figure 5, shown in red box) The article says:

"Chinese physicists Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning in the United States have discovered a major problem in nuclear physics. This new discovery has attracted great attention and response from the scientific community in my country. The Chinese Academy of Sciences held an academic seminar in Beijing yesterday. Physics Research Researcher and theoretical physicist Zhu Hongyuan introduced this discovery that has attracted the attention of the international physics community at the meeting. Physicists such as Zhao Zhongyao, Qian Sanqiang, Peng Huanwu, Zhang Wenyu, and Zhu Hongyuan all made warm speeches on this issue."

"People's Daily" also published an article by the physicist Yu Min on the seventh page of the same day, "How is the law of conservation of parity shaken", which provided in-depth and simple explanations of Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning's theories and Wu Jianxiong's experimental verification. Popular science.



► Figure 5 "People's Daily" February 23, 1957, first edition

On March 1, the "People's Daily" published a report entitled "The major discoveries of Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning in nuclear physics caused great shock in the American scientific community", the report said

"Xinhua News Agency reported on the 28th from New York: The major discoveries of Chinese young physicists Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning in nuclear physics have shaken the American scientific community and attracted the attention of physicists around the world."

The report also cited the praise and high praise of major American newspapers and scientists for this scientific achievement. Since then, "People's Daily" also reported twice on May 1 and May 8 that Li and Yang had received Einstein bonuses. "Guangming Daily" was still a newspaper sponsored by the democratic parties. In addition to publishing the same news following the "People's Daily", it also published a Xinhua News Agency telegraph on May 19, reporting that Yang Zhenning was invited by the French government to the French Higher Normal School. The college gives an academic lecture. It can be seen that mainland China has been following their activities for some time. Although the report was a little late, from the follow-up reports of the mainland newspapers and periodicals on this matter, it cannot be considered that the Chinese mainland officials lacked understanding of the importance of this scientific achievement.

In addition to the publicly issued "People's Daily" and "Guangming Daily", "Reference News", which is only available to officials at the county level and above, published an article on March 2, 1957, introducing the "major discoveries of Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning" "Summarized the aforementioned initial reports by Taiwan's "Central Daily News" and the Central News Agency on major break-

throughs in Li Yang's physics research. (Figure 6, shown in the red box) "Reference News" was originally an internal newspaper for senior officials to read news and comments from overseas news agencies and newspapers. On March 1, 1957, it was expanded to county-level officials. It published such an article on the second day of its expansion, showing that Li Yang's scientific research work has indeed attracted the attention of Chinese leaders.

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参考 消息

一九五七年三月二日 足期六

美国官員对阿拉伯四国公报感到失望

認为未能以贊同的态度提到艾森豪威尔主义

【合众社华盛顿2 月28 日电】美国官员今天承认,他们对于开罗阿拉伯"最高级"会议在公报中未能以赞同的态度提到艾森豪威尔中东计划,感到失望。

美国不愿意发表正式评论。国务院发言人怀特在有人在每日记者报待 会上请他发表意见时,只说他不能表示任何意见。

他说, "公报正在研究中。"

但是另外的美国官员在答复问题时说,他们感到失望,因为他们原来希望,公报会以赞同的态度提到中东计划的。

沙特返回中东时,美国官方希望他能够说服其他中立的阿拉伯领袖们,使他们相信艾森豪威尔计划是符合于他们自己的愿望和他们的最高利益的。

在开罗会议开始后,据悉,四个阿拉伯领袖在对待支森豪威尔主义的态度上分裂了,赞同的和反对的大体上各占一半。沙特热烈支持,约旦国王侯寮尼倾向于赞成,叙利亚总统库阿特利强烈反对,而埃及总统纳赛尔

这里官方人士感到失望的是,沙特国王没有能够返用充分的影响,来 争取反对者对美国政策不采取那么敌税的态度——至少足以使他们可能赞 同地提到支森豪威尔主义。

国际新闻杜开罗2 月28 日电 今天有充分的迹象表明、纳赛尔总统 仍然支配着南层的阿拉伯国家集团。

昨晚阿拉伯"四大国"会议发表的公报看起来好像是专为纳赛尔个人 发表而准备的一篇演说。

某些西方外交界人士对这个公报感到"极为悲观",但是阿拉伯的高级人士说,这个公报所没有讲的和它所讲的同样重要。

这些阿拉伯人士强调说, 沙特本人对于他在华盛顿听到的那些话以后 美国在就以色列撒进问题进行摊牌方面进展的程度也感到不调。

但是他们说,沙特劝传其他阿拉伯领袖相信艾森豪威尔制止苏联掺入 中东的计划是值得认真考虑的,他在这方面仍然取得了"显著的进展"。

以色列駐美大使 决定1日在联大宣布撤軍計划

(合众社华盛顿 2 月28 日电) 以色列大使伊胺今天向国务卿杜勒斯说 明了以色列推出加沙和亚喀巴湾地区的计划。

这位以色列大使说,他同杜勒斯讨论了以色列要在明天在联合国大会 上宣布"这项撤退计划"的打算。

记者们竭力要探明以色列撤退计划的详细内容。伊班对记者们的这种 查问谐而不答。他说一般不能"诸论任何实是内容"。

埃及"全字塔根" 说 英国想和埃及恢复外交关系

(合 众社 开罗2 月28 日电) "金字塘报" 今天说,英国现在正在作间接的尝试,以便与埃及恢复外交关系。

"金字塔报"说,埃及政府提出的条件是:承认埃及把苏伊士运河收 归国有和以色列军队全部撤退。

这家报纸说,为了设法与类及恢复关系,英国"表示愿意"把被冻结的埃及英镑资产解冻,赔偿埃及由于英法以的行动而引起的损失和承认埃及把外国银行、保险公司和商业机构"埃及化"的新法律。"金字塔报"说,英国是通过一个中间国家进行接给的,但是,没有指

* 盆 字 看 报 * 说 , 英 国 是 通 过 一 个 中 间 国 采 进 行 核 治 的 , 但 是 , 仅 有 指 出 这 个 国 家 的 名 字 。

英外交部发言人说 并未和埃及进行接触

【路透社伦敦28 日电】在今天的一次记者 招待会上,有人请英国外交都发言人就开罗一 家报纸所刊载的下述的消息安表评论,即所谓 英国正在寻求恢复同族及之间的外交关系以及 准备解除对埃及在这里的英镑资产的封锁。

发言人回答说: "并未就任何这样的问题采取过什么步骤。"

聂荣臻赴黄金海岸途中抵倫敦

【合众社伦敦2月28日电】红色中国副总理聂荣臻今天从北平到达这 里取道前往参加黄金海岸独立典礼。

聂荣臻元弊将在伦敦一直呆到星期六,但是, 他告诉记者 说他不打算 会见英国政府的官员。

他是红色中国政府访问过伦敦的最高级官员。

勉说, "我很高兴能到这里来。我们希望发展两国人民之间的友好关

蔣帮極力拉臘我留美科学家李政道和楊振宁等

【本刊》: 用将台灣分面的我面美科学家事政道、信息字等在科学上 的重大发现前息发表后的反应综述于下:

台湾"中央日报"首次登载这方面的新总是在1月18日。电头是"中" 央社组约16日合众电",标题是:"对等性定律(编者往;即"字称守恒定律",下同。)被根本粉碎,哥伦比亚大学宣夸我三科学家有贡献"。 商总说,这个发现是由哥伦比亚大学在1月16日宣布的。 2月3日"中央日报"发表了一条"本报讯"的商总如下:"教育部

2月3日"甲央日报"发表了一条"本报讯"的商品则下:"教育部以我族美青年科学家李政道、杨操宁、吴剑雄三位博士最近对物理科学的惊人贡献,决定各投予荣誉科学奖章,以表示我政府之重视。教育部之电文,已于昨日前发我狂美量大使托代向三位科学家道贺,并邀请轮流返国讲学。

► Figure 6 "Reference News" March 2, 1957

In the reports on the scientific research achievements of Li Yangwu in Chinese media around the world, we have seen an interesting phenomenon that all parties claim that Li, Yang and Wu are Chinese scientists. For example, in the initial report of the pro-Kuomintang Hong Kong "Business Daily", although they mistakenly thought that Li and Yang had already joined the United States, they still called them "two young Chinese nuclear physicists." The "Central Daily News" referred to them as the "three scientists of mine" and "Chinese physicists who are world-renowned." Mainland China also referred to them as "Chinese physicists studying in the United States" and "Chinese young physicists studying in the United States." The title of the "Reference News" report also stated that Li and Yang were the targets of "the Jiang Gang tried their best to win." It can be seen that the governments and media on both sides of the strait at that time had no objection to the identities of Li and Yang, and they unanimously called them Chinese scientists. Of course, the meaning of "China" here is different on both sides of the strait. It can be said to be an early practice of "one China, each expressed".

After May 1957, after the shock wave caused by Li, Yang and Wu in the scientific community passed, news about them faded from the mass media. But unexpectedly, half a year later, on October 31, the Royal Academy of Sciences of Sweden announced that it would award the Nobel Prize in Physics that year to Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning in recognition of their "thorough research on the so-called law of conservation of parity. This research led to major discoveries in the field of elementary particles." To say that this news is unexpected is not to say that people have any reservations about whether their scientific achievements are eligible for awards, but to say that there is only one year from the time they publish papers questioning the law of parity to the Nobel Prize. It is unprecedented in history. In this sense, it is indeed beyond many people's expectations. In fact, Nobel himself expressed this wish in his original will: "distribute bonuses to those who have made outstanding contributions to mankind in the previous year". At least until then, this wish has not really been realized, because scientif-

ic breakthroughs and inventions usually have to be verified and confirmed for a long time, and one year is far from enough. According to regulations, the nomination for the Nobel Prize each year must be completed on February 1 of that year. Although Li Yang's article was published in October 1956, scientists have always believed in experiments, and few people would nominate them before the results of the experiment. The press conference of the Department of Physics of Columbia University was just held on January 15. In other words, a large number of nomination letters for Li Yang were sent to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences within half a month. Scientific breakthroughs like Li Yang's, from proposing a hypothesis to multiple independent experimental verifications, were completed in just a few months, and they were unanimously praised by the scientific community. They are rare in the history of the Nobel Prize in Science.

Taiwan's officials responded quickly to the somewhat sudden honour. Its Foreign Minister Ye Gongchao, Education Minister Zhang Qiyun and Ambassador to the United Nations Jiang Tingfu sent congratulatory messages to both Li and Yang on the same day. Zhang Qiyun also made a statement on the same day, saying, "The best news from Paris from the Central News Agency is that the two Ph.Ds of Chinese scientist Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning have been awarded the Nobel Prize for Science of this year. This is a major event of historical significance, not only for the Chinese academic community. The great glory has also added infinite brilliance to my entire nation." The "Central Daily News" published on the front page of the Associated Press's long-form telegraph from Princeton and the Central News Agency's telegraph from Paris to report this incident. The headline was "Yang Zhenning and Li Zhengdao both won the Nobel Prize for outstanding achievements in research in physics", and the subtitle was "Professor Yang and Li's collaborative research overturned the last revolution." In the first edition of the

newspaper, a total of four headlines of the newsletter gave a detailed introduction to the scientific achievements, experience and family of Li and Yang, and published photos of Li and Yang. (Picture 7) The "Central Daily News" reported on Li Yang's award in the next few days. In the November 2 report, the "Central Daily News" mentioned: "Neither Yang nor Li are American citizens, but Both have obtained permanent residency in the United States." And quoted the Central News Agency: Li and Yang "do not want to talk more about the fact that they are the first Chinese to win the Nobel Prize." The report on November 3 was from China Radio. The company's long-distance telephone interview with Li and Yang also reprinted the full text of Li Zhengdao's greetings to her mother and brother in Shanghainese.



▶ Figure 7 The front page of "Central Daily News" on November 1, 1957

Other newspapers in Taiwan also regard this incident as the glory of the entire Chinese nation. For example, on November 1st, Taipei's "New Life" published an interview with a reporter entitled "Two Youths with Immortal Achievements", which reported interviews with the relatives of Li Zhengdao living in Taiwan, and recorded the relationship between the mother and the second brother in their

childhood and schooling. Many vivid memories of Li Zhengdao. The article also mentioned that Li Zhengdao was "born in a famous Suzhou". His grandfather was a Christian bishop for a long time. His father ran a factory in Shanghai before the War of Resistance. The article also reported an interview with Yang Zhenning's mother-in-law, introducing Mrs. Yang Zhenning as "the eldest son of the famous general Du Yuming during the Anti-Japanese War." Oppenheimer and the help of the American ambassador to Japan was able to return to her husband. ... Taiwanese newspapers seem to have innumerable topics about Li and Yang.

As mentioned at the beginning of this article, the response from Mainland China was the Xinhua News Agency Paris News published in the fifth edition of People's Daily on November 1. The full text is as follows:

"Stockholm news: Chinese physicists Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenyu studying in the United States jointly won this year's Nobel Prize in Physics. This was announced in a communiqui issued by the Swedish Academy of Sciences on the 31st. The communiqué stated that Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenyu won the Nobel Prize. The reason is that they have made superb research on the law of conservation of parity, which led to important discoveries in elementary particles. When these two physicists in China were conducting theoretical research on nuclei and elementary particles last summer, they proposed a The new concept has been shaken for more than 30 years and has been regarded as a basic physical law in the microcosm - the law of conservation of parity. Soon this concept was confirmed in experiments by another Chinese scientist Wu Jianxiong."

There is no emotional vocabulary in more than two hundred words. If it were not for "Chinese physicists", it would seem to be reporting a piece of news about foreign scientists. On the second day, Wu Youxun, Zhou Peiyuan, and Qian Sanqiang's message to congratulate Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning appeared in

the first edition, and there was only a slightly emotional sentence: "Chinese physicists are proud of this gratifying event." In the other pages of "People's Daily" and for more than a month thereafter, there was no news about Li Yang winning the award. It was not until December 11th and 12th that the news of Li Yang's arrival in Stockholm and the report about the award ceremony were published. .

From February to March to November, the media coverage and enthusiasm for Li Yang's Nobel Prize seemed to plummet. Ordinarily, the news at the beginning of the year was only released by the Department of Physics of Columbia University to the press, but at that time, although the Chinese mainland media reported on the scientific research work of Li Yangwu and the three people a little late, other aspects were impeccable: the reporting specifications were moderate— Placed in the center of the first edition, the content is informative-Xinhua News Agency plus editor's note totaling 850 words, and Mr. Yu Min's long popular science article with both pictures and texts makes readers feel that the authorities attach great importance to their scientific achievements. In contrast, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced on October 31 that the Li Yang Nobel Prize was awarded to represent the affirmation and highest award of the scientific community around the world for their research work. The news came that the standards reported by the Chinese mainland media were obviously the same as its The weight is extremely disproportionate, and it uses flat and straightforward text to report this event that should have been enthusiastically cheered. People can't help asking: Why is this? What happened in the half-year period from the beginning of the year to the end of the year that caused the Chinese mainland media to have such a huge disparity in attitude before and after such an event?

Political considerations: "under the shadow of satellites"

The aforementioned article in the "Preaching News" on February 17, 1957 shows that political considerations have been an important factor from the very beginning on how the Chinese authorities report on the scientific achievements of the three of Li, Yang and Wu. After briefly introducing the content of the Columbia University press conference, the article immediately turned to political topics:

"Although this is a major event in physics, newspapers in the United States and Hong Kong advertised it abnormally and with great fanfare. According to our preliminary estimates, this was politically motivated. The New York Times, contrary to scientific practice, published it publicly. The New York Times reported this news in a prominent position. The Hong Kong True News also reported on the front page of the report on February 6th and 7th, and published publicity and introduction reports for several consecutive days. The article believes that this discovery'shocked the world' and'equal to the achievement of Einstein's theory of relativity', and that the law of conservation of parity has the same significance as the law of conservation of energy in the past.... The Hong Kong Zhenbao published a short article This incident was compared with Qian Xuesen's return to China and the propaganda said: "How about Dr. Qian Xuesen who went back to the mainland after making a big fuss? Are there any great scientific achievements?" Then he said: "Zhou Enlai and even the CCP's propaganda and secret agents must be doing their best Trying to compete with these three scientists!' The Taiwan side also paid extreme attention to this incident. The pseudo-Ministry of Education has decided to award Li, Yang, and Wu three honorary science medals and invited them to lecture in Taiwan. The pseudo-Foreign Minister Ye Gongchao also once worked in the United States. A special banquet was given to Yang and Li (Wu Wei attended) ."

It can be seen from the tone of this text that the initial reaction of Chinese leaders after learning of the news released by the Department of Physics at Columbia University is likely to be that they suspect that the reports of the United States and Taiwan and Hong Kong have political purposes, and thus doubt

whether this is really in physics. A major event. After observing for a period of time and consulting domestic physicists, they judged that, firstly, this is indeed a major scientific discovery; but, secondly, it is necessary to be wary of the political goals of US and Chiang's vigorous propaganda. The Chinese newspapers' subsequent reports on this incident were the result of a balance between these two judgments. Based on the first judgment, this matter should be reported in a timely manner; based on the second judgment, when reporting this incident, you must pay attention to proportions to avoid adverse political influence. On the one hand, from political considerations, reporting on this will inevitably remind readers that the achievements of Li, Yang and Wu were achieved in the United States and were the result of training in the United States. Before they went to the United States for further studies, they were in the era of the Nationalist government Cultivated by the education system. After all, it had only been four years since China and the United States had ceased war on the Korean battlefield at that time, and it had only been eight years since the end of the Kuomintang Civil War. The Chinese authorities were very hostile to the two rivals, the United States and the Kuomintang, and of course they were unwilling to improve the image of the other in people's minds. But on the other hand, the Chinese authorities have also realized that this is a major scientific achievement, which is mainly attributed to Chinese scientists studying in the United States. This fact will undoubtedly have a positive effect on encouraging Chinese scientists and intellectuals to march towards science. China in early 1957 was in a period of relative stability and relaxation. In the previous year, Mao Zedong put forward the policy of "let a hundred flowers bloom and a hundred schools of thought contend" and called on "the whole party to study scientific knowledge, unite with non-party intellectuals, and strive to quickly catch up with the world's advanced scientific standards." A wave of "marching toward science". After weighing the two phases, the authorities still made the decision to report appropriately. Therefore, we have seen a series of fairly objective reports on the scientific achievements of Li, Yang and Wu in the mainland Chinese newspapers from late February to May.

However, in the following months, some events occurred internationally, which made the balance of this trade-off seriously tilted. The most significant event was the successful launch of the first artificial earth satellite by the Soviet Union on October 4. "People's Daily" published the news on the front page on October 6, and published an editorial on the front page the next day under the headline "Cheers for the great scientific achievements of the Soviet Union". The editorial says:

"The success of artificial earth satellites and intercontinental missiles marked that the Soviet Union had surpassed the United States in the field of science and technology and became the first in the world. The world's first socialist country, the Soviet Union, has set its own glorious example and demonstrated the socialist system. Unparalleled superiority to the capitalist system."

The editorial asserts: "Comparing capitalism with socialism, backwardness is destined. Capitalism has decayed, while socialism is rising like the sun. The superiority of socialism itself and its incomparable vitality will make capitalism farther away. Left behind." The belief that the socialist system will defeat the capitalist system is the basic tenet of the Chinese Communists based on their historical materialism. However, the enthusiastic text of this editorial shows that the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party As far as people are concerned, the scientific achievement of the Soviet satellite's flight to the sky has greatly strengthened their belief in the victory of socialism, making them feel that the time has come for the socialist system to surpass the capitalist system. This kind

of "system confidence", in Mao Zedong's words, means "the east wind prevails over the west." In fact, this statement was made by Mao Zedong for the first time more than a month later. When he received Chinese students in Moscow on November 17, Mao Zedong said: "The unity of the international communist movement and the two satellites of the Soviet Union God, these two events marked a new turning point in the comparison of the forces between the two camps.... It is not the west wind that overwhelms the east wind, but the east wind overwhelms the west wind."

So when Mao Zedong boarded the plane on November 2 and went to Moscow to participate in the 40th anniversary celebration of the Soviet October Revolution-October 31, it was heard that when the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the Nobel Prize to Li and Yang that year, the Chinese leader May have been different from the beginning of the year. The first reaction of Chinese senior leaders who were full of "institutional confidence" due to the successful launch of the Soviet satellite to Li Yang's Nobel Prize may not be that he was pleased that the winner was a Chinese scientist, but that his indisputable conclusion was challenged ——According to the logic of the editorial published by the People's Daily on October 7, scientific achievement is an indicator of the quality of the social system, and the Nobel Prize winners turned out to be scientists engaged in research in the United States. Can the United States, which has been declared "destined" to be backward and decadent, also have advanced science twenty days ago? In particular, unlike other awards, the Nobel Prize in Science is recognized as the highest recognition for scientists. The number of Nobel Prize winners in a country is an important indicator of its scientific level. Obviously, the world will not attribute Li Yang's award as a Chinese to China, where they were born, but will only add new glory to American science. Therefore, for those who firmly believe that the east wind has overwhelmed the west wind, this news seems difficult to reconcile.

In fact, there is indeed public opinion in the United States who regards Li Yang's Nobel Prize as a balance of the achievements of Soviet satellites and is happy.

"Su Wei-1 has so closely linked science and technology with the pursuit of national prestige, which has touched the social nerves that have been strained by the Cold War. Therefore, when news came from Stockholm on October 31, that year When the Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to two Chinese physicists, Zhengdao Li of Columbia University and Zhenning Yang of the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study, Americans were both happy and worried. When the two went to Sweden to receive the prize in December, U.S. officials feared that China might tempt them to return to China or kidnap them away, so they were very uncomfortable watching them. The FBI was relieved when the two of them returned to the United States after receiving the award. " (Wang Zuoyue:" satellite in the shadow "on page 94)

Taiwan's Kuomintang government's announcement of Li Yang's award for the award is no different from the eyes of the leaders of the Chinese authorities to add fuel to the fire of public opinion. Zhang Qiyun, Minister of Education of the Kuomintang government, made a representative speech on October 31. He said:

"The leading position of Chinese scientists in atomic science is now recognized by the world.... (Li Yang's) important papers have made a very important contribution to the study of modern physics. They made a sensation and considered a new scientific century. They are about to begin. Now they have won the supreme honor in the world. It is truly deserved. It is not accidental." Zhang Qiyun compared the Soviet satellite with Li Yang's scientific contributions in his conversation, saying, "...Russian emperor has already The first artificial satellite was radiated. But we must know that the basic contributions made by young Chinese scientists have made some scientific and technological advances of the Russian imperial eclipse and eclipse. Because the new scientific theories of Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning are precisely to combat communism The most powerful spiritual weapon of ism, it completely wiped out communism." (Central Daily News, November 1, 1957)

—Li Yang's research on the law of conservation of parity reveals the breaking of the laws of nature under mirror symmetry. Unfortunately, politicians are involved in the debate, using scientific and technological achievements to demonstrate the superiority of ideology and social systems. On the one hand, the two sides of the Taiwan Strait have a high degree of mirror symmetry.

Another major event after May 1957 was the anti-rightist movement in China. "People's Daily" published the "Instructions on the Rectification Movement" of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on May 1, calling on non-Party people to "sing", encourage the masses to give opinions to the Communist Party and the government, and help the Communist Party in rectification. But by early June, the leaders of the CCP began to turn the rectification into an anti-rightist movement. After more than four months of anti-rightist struggle, the "People's Daily" published on October 19 the anti-rightist "frontline commander" Deng Xiaoping's "report on the rectification movement" to the CPC Central Committee. The report said:

"The main venues for the activities of rightists are places where there are piles of intellectuals, such as colleges and universities, certain state agencies, press and publication agencies, literary and artistic organizations, political and legal circles, science and technology circles, and medical circles. Many of them are soaked in. With a view of the bourgeois world,...so the right-wing intellectuals are particularly rampant in this attack."

Here, Deng Xiaoping listed institutions of higher learning and science and technology, the two areas that have contributed the most to the country's scientific and technological development, as the main venues for rightists. Therefore, from June to October, some important figures in the scientific and technological circles have received fierce criticism. These critiques cannot be detailed in this article. Here, I will only take a document entitled "Some Opinions on Issues Related to my country's Scientific System" around the national critique as an example, let's take a look at the anti-rightist in the field of science and technology at that time. Movement momentum: This document was originally drafted by five professors Zeng Zhaohuan, Qian Jiaju, Hua Luogeng, Tong Dizhou, and Qian Weichang from the "Scientific Planning Issues Research Group" of the Central Committee of the Chinese Democratic League to the CPC Central Committee., But it has been criticized as an "anti-socialist scientific program". In more than 20 days between June and July 1957, the People's Daily alone published three review papers by Hua Luogeng. (Wang Yangzong: "Hua Luogeng is in the gap between mathematics and politics", China Science News, January 9, 2015) The National Committee of the All-China Society of Natural Sciences held a four-day conference in July to criticize these scientists and their Submission. Vice Premier Nie Rongzhen, who is in charge of science and technology, said at the meeting:

"The words of the rightists must be opposed... because these words of the rightists contain a deep hostility towards socialism, because they are trying to oppose socialism, oppose the leadership of the Communist Party, and usurp state leadership." (July, July) "Xinhua News Agency Press Release" on the 18th, see Zhu Zheng: "The Whole History of Anti-Rightist Struggle")

The headlines of critical articles during this period were full of gunpowder, such as: "Trafficking in private capitalist goods under the cover of the banner of antidogma' Qian Weichang is the broker of the Zhangluo Alliance in the scientific world", "anti-socialist' scientific program" Zeng Zhaolan, the main designer of, began to explain the relationship with the Zhangluo Alliance" (People's Daily, July 14, 1957). "The National League Higher Education Branch held a symposium to further expose Zeng Zhaolan's anti-party and anti-socialist features." "Scientists actively spoke at the anti-rightist symposium to warn Zeng Zhaolan and Qian Weichang not to deny himself to the people" (Guangming Daily "July 17, 1957) It can be seen from the words of these leaders and newspapers that after the anti-rightist movement started, how "deep" they were against intellectuals in science and technology, so much so that Beware of the point where they "usurp state leadership."

This mentality seems to have changed the balance of how the Chinese authorities deal with how to report Li Yang's award. Political worries prevailed: in addition to the fear that this news would challenge the leader's glorious assertion that "the east wind overwhelms the west", it was also because of Li Yang's The award made them rise from outstanding scientists to the status of world-class cultural and scientific celebrities. The Chinese public will definitely want to have a comprehensive understanding of them. In addition to their scientific contributions, they hope to understand their family and the growth experience of their

youth in China. And other aspects. This will inevitably bring up some facts. The less people the government wants to know, the better: For example, Yang Zhenning's father-in-law is a Kuomintang war criminal Du Yuming who is serving his sentence, and Li Zhengdao was born in a family with a strong Christian tradition, his great-grandfather and grandfather. He is an important clergy member of the Christian churches in Shanghai and Suzhou; Shu Xingbei, one of Li Zhengdao's most respected teachers, was already an extreme rightist at the time; the number one rightist in science and technology Zeng Zhaowei, quasi-right Hua Luogeng, and Taiwan's Wu Dayuo were the same year. The three professors who took Li Zhengdao to the United States to investigate atomic bomb technology enabled Li Zhengdao to enter the University of Chicago for further studies... Therefore, reports on Li Yang must be controlled so that people do not think of the relationship between the reactionaries and the award-winning Li Yang, thereby weakening the offensive against rightists. If at the beginning of the year, Shanghai Wen Wei Po published an interview titled "Interview with Professor Yang Wuzhi and Talk about Yang Zhenning and His Achievements", then such "trivial" and "gossip" articles would have disappeared after Li Yang won the award. These factors affected the mainland's official response to the news from Stockholm on October 31st, resulting in the situation described earlier in this article: the report specification was reduced to a level that is better than nothing, and news of more than 200 words was placed on the edge of the fifth edition. In the corner of the first edition, the official didn't say anything. Instead, three old scientists congratulated Li and Yang in the corner of the first page. The word count was more than 100. Finally, they borrowed one sentence to express the Chinese people's feelings: event".

Perhaps another reason for this cold treatment is that the mainland authorities' efforts to fight for Yang Zhenning's return to the motherland were not success-

ful. Among the three scientific stars of Li Yangwu, Yang Zhenning has the strongest tendency to return to China. Because his parents are in mainland China and his father is sick, he always hopes to have the opportunity to at least return to China to visit his father and family. As mentioned in the above article in "Missions News" on February 17, 1957:

"Last year when the Soviet Union held a conference on high-energy particles in physics, two theoretical physicists in the United States conveyed to my representative that Yang Zhenning intended to return to China, and then Qian Sanqiang wrote to Yang, persuading him to return to China and implying that Du Yuming is still alive and there is no need to worry. When the physicist Zhang Wenyu returned to China from the United States last year, Yang once said to Zhang: I have received the letter from the money. I am very grateful, but I still have concerns about returning to China. Later, Du Yuming wrote to Yang Yixin in his own hand. It has been sent out, but there is still no response."

However, all these things happened before January 1957, when Yang Zhenning had already made her mark in the physics world and had not yet become a news figure. In the spring of 1957, Yang Zhenning was invited to work in Geneva, Switzerland for a few months in the summer, so he sent a telegram to his home, hoping that his father would come to Geneva to reunite with himself and his daughter-in-law and grandson he had never met. After receiving the telegram, Yang Wuzhi wrote to Zhou Enlai, expressing his willingness to take the opportunity of the meeting to get him back to work in China. At that time, although Yang Zhenning did not win the Nobel Prize, he had already become a star in the world, so he was quickly approved by Zhou Enlai and Nie Rongzhen. Father Yang took the Tu-104 plane to Geneva via Moscow on July 6 to meet with his son's family. He returned to China on August 23. During this time, Chinese Ambassador to Switzerland Feng Xuan and the counselor took the opportunity to visit Yang Zhenning and his wife, and Yang Ye went to the embassy for a return visit. In the

embassy, I watched the documentary "Yingxia Railway" reflecting China's construction. According to an internal report, Yang told the embassy staff that it would be sooner or later to return to China, but because the research work still needs to continue, and the conditions and equipment in the United States are better than those in China, he does not plan to return to China for the time being. After returning to China, Yang Wuzhi expressed his gratitude to the government for helping him go to Switzerland to meet with his children and grandchildren, and returned part of the travel expenses (Yang Zhenning gave him a sum of money). ("Some information about Yang Zhenning", published in " Public Education News", November 19, 1957) It seems that the Chinese government paid his travel expenses at the beginning because when he applied to go to Geneva, the reason he told the government was to fight for his son to return to China. In fact, the official business failed, and the trip became a private family reunion, and paying back part of the travel expenses probably also meant unwillingness to pay.

Yang Wuzhi's trip to fight for his son's return to the country coincided with the climax of the domestic anti-rightist movement. Yang Zhenning probably also learned from the news that some familiar teachers such as Zeng Zhaouan, Qian Weichang and Hua Luogeng were impacted by the movement. On the other hand, his status in American academia is not comparable to a year ago. This is probably the reason why he hesitated to return to China. Yang Zhenning's statement that the embassy personnel "will not return home for the time being" is estimated to be the conclusion reached after the father and son talks. For the Chinese authorities, the various dissatisfaction and criticisms of the scientific and technological intellectuals exposed in the anti-right movement against the Communist Party have deepened the impression that not only the intellectuals in the humanities, political and legal circles, but also the intellectuals in the scientific

and technological circles have different opinions. Few people are separated from the party. Yang Wuzhi persuaded his son to return home and failed, adding a new example to this impression.

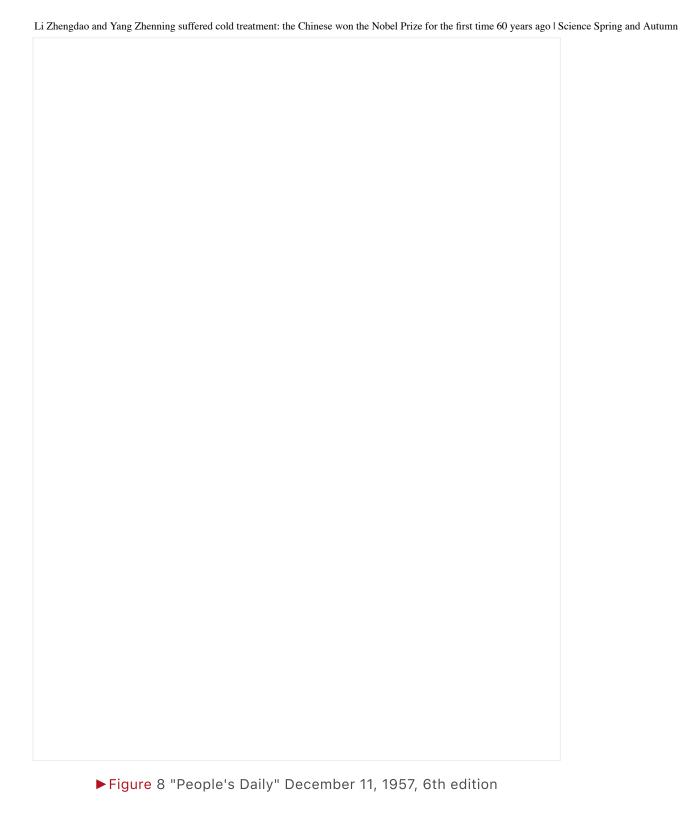
Why did the Chinese government representatives absent the Nobel Prize award ceremony that year?

In December, Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning went to Stockholm to accept the award, and reports in mainland China still maintained a low-key "cold treatment" approach. "People's Daily" published a short message on the right hand edge of the 6th edition on December 11, with the title "Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning arrived in Stockholm to welcome the staff of the Chinese Embassy in Sweden to the airport", the full text is as follows:

"Xinhua News Agency reported from Stockholm on the 10th: The 1957 Nobel Prize winner in physics, Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning, two Chinese physicists, arrived in Stockholm on the afternoon of the 8th with his wife and received the Nobel Prize. Cultural Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Sweden Xu Zhongfu, representatives of the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Swedish Academy of Sciences and the Nobel Prize Committee all went to the airport to welcome them."

The word count is still 109, which is the smallest word count in this edition. Interestingly, the same page also published several times the space entitled "Soviet scientists introduced the work of Li Zhengdao, Yang Zhenning, and others. It was determined that parity is not conservation is a major scientific achievement, and the explanation of the "compound inversion theory" of the Soviet Union Landau academician was published. a similar phenomenon, "the article (Figure 8), title and content gives the impression that Li Yang Wu's work" is a major scien-

tific achievement, "Soviet scientists was" OK ", and the Soviet Union Landau (also translated as Landau) Academician's "compound inversion theory" seems to be no less than Li Yang's theory. It should be said that Landau is an outstanding master of physics. After reading the preprint of Li Yang's paper, he opposed it. In October 1956, he changed his attitude and made a pioneering neutrino two-component theory based on parity non-conservation. jobs. (Zhao Tianchi: "The Way of the Linguistic Things of the Sky", p.246) But after all, Li Yang's theory comes first, and Landau's theory comes later, which is universally recognized.



The report on the official award ceremony on December 10 appeared in the lower left corner of the fifth page of the People's Daily on December 12. This report was even more "cherishing words like gold"-the title was "Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning accepting the Nobel prize.", the full text is:

12/21/2020

"Xinhua News Agency reported from Stockholm on the 11th: Two Chinese physicists Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning, winners of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1957, accepted the prize and gold medal at a ceremony held in the Stockholm Concert Hall on the 10th."

This telecommunications, which is too short to be shorter, has only one sentence and a total of 60 words, plus a photo. The photo description reads: "On December 10, Chinese physicists Li Zhengdao (left) and Yang Zhenning (middle) accepted it in Stockholm. In 1957, the Nobel Prize in Physics, Swedish King Gustav Adolf (right) congratulated them."

Since then, Li Yang's name and their research work have almost completely disappeared in the Chinese public media, only mentioned occasionally when popularizing scientific knowledge and reporting foreign experts' visits to China. This situation continued for more than ten years, and it only changed in the early 1970s.

In addition to the extremely short report of the People's Daily on December 12, it is worth noting that it did not mention whether Chinese officials attended the award ceremony. This is worth noting because China and Sweden had established diplomatic relations at the time, and China had an ambassador in Stockholm. When "People's Daily" reported that Li Yang arrived in Stockholm the day before, it also mentioned that "Xu Zhongfu, Cultural Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Sweden" was also among the people who went to the airport to welcome him. However, at the official award ceremony, the Chinese official representative disappeared from the report in the "People's Daily". Obviously, this is not the reporter's fault. The only explanation is that no Chinese ambassador or other representatives were present at this important ceremony. In fact, this strange absence was noticed by a small number of people—mainly intellectuals

and college students—it was just that in the political atmosphere after the antirightist campaign, no one publicly said it. It cannot be said publicly that various rumors have spread. Some say it is because Taiwan's Kuomintang government sent officials to attend the award ceremony, and mainland Chinese government representatives refused to attend as a protest. Others said it was because Li Zhengdao and Yang Zhenning were receiving awards. The speech expressed his gratitude to the United States, and the Chinese ambassador immediately withdrew. In short, the result is that "People's Daily" did not mention whether the Chinese ambassador was present at all. It only used one sentence to pass this milestone event that all Chinese people should feel glorious.

What on earth happened? Why don't Chinese ambassadors sit in the hall of the award ceremony with honor like the ambassadors of other winners' home countries? For sixty years, no one has clarified this mystery, and it became a big blind spot in the 1957 incident of Li Yang winning the Nobel Prize. The author of this article hopes to be able to truthfully restore everything that happened behind the things that the People's Daily reported in a few sentences.

When the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced the winners of the Nobel Prize in Physics on October 31, it might not have thought that it posed a problem for its government: the two winners are from the United States, but they are not American citizens, but A Chinese citizen holds a passport of the "Republic of China", and this is a China that has no diplomatic relations with Sweden, and a China that has formal diplomatic relations with Sweden is the "People's Republic of China". This situation may have never been encountered by the Swedish government. In order to prevent accidents, the authorities have adopted unusual safety measures. The New York Times published a report on December 9 entitled "Sweden Protects Two Nobel Prize Winners". The article says:

"The Swedish authorities took security measures to the two Nobel Prize physicists who arrived from the United States that have not been done since the end of World War II.... Only two reporters know the time of their plane landing." Why did they do this? The article said: "Three officials from the Chinese Embassy were waiting to be greeted at the airport in order to provide all possible means for the two winners of the Republic of China' passports to return to China as soon as possible. The two SAS Airlines planes landed successively. Later, the welcoming cars waiting on the edge of the runway were immediately picked up and sent to the hotel in the city.... Officials stated that during Li Yang's stay, Sweden will prevent any attempts by the CCP to contact them."

As mentioned earlier, the US authorities are concerned that "China may tempt them to return or kidnap them." This kind of security measures such as the enemy is obviously negotiated by the US and the Swedish government.

The measures taken by the US and Swedish governments are actually a Cold War mentality that infinitely exaggerates the enemy's situation. The Chinese authorities actually have no such intentions. The same "New York Times" reported that a reporter asked Xu Zhongfu, the cultural counselor of the Chinese Embassy to pick up the plane at the airport, whether the Chinese government planned to urge the two scientists to return to China. The counselor's answer was "It is up to them to decide." August brought back from Switzerland Yang information "temporarily intend to return home," so that they return home for the Chinese authorities need to know the long term and now they won the Nobel Prize, for their recent return to become almost "mission impossible (mission impossible)" again.

Judging from the information that can be collected so far, the Chinese authorities only hope to maintain certain channels of contact with them for long-term

work. This task fell to the physicist Mr. Wenyu Zhang, because Mr. Zhang had just returned to China from the United States a year ago, and when he returned to China, he brought back the article Li Yang published on October 1, 1956. Preprint (published on June 22, 1956). Mr. Zhang and Li Yang had a friendship between teachers and students during the Southwest Associated University. When they were in the United States, they had a lot of contacts with Li and Yang because they were engaged in research in the same field. At this time he was being sent to work at the Dubna Joint Nuclear Research Institute outside Moscow, which is the nuclear research center of the socialist camp countries. It is also very convenient to go from Moscow to Stockholm.

According to Mr. Yang Zhenning during an interview with Wang Zuoyue, one of the authors of this article, at Tsinghua University in 2011, Zhang Wenyu also brought a letter from Yang Zhenning's father-in-law Du Yuming to Yang and his wife when he went to Sweden, but Zhang met Yang Zhenning and his wife at the airport and was blocked by the Swedish government, very unhappy. He specifically told the Swedish side that he hoped that Zhang Wenyu would participate in the Nobel Prize award ceremony and dinner. However, the Chinese Embassy temporarily decided to boycott the award ceremony because it knew that Hong Shan, a reporter from Taiwan's Central News Agency, would be present at the award ceremony, which resulted in the absence of Chinese Ambassadors Han Nianlong and Zhang Wenyu. The US "Newsweek" magazine (December 23, 1957) specifically mentioned in an article entitled "The Choices of These Chinese People" that the chair of the Chinese ambassador at the award ceremony "was the only empty space in the entire hall." ". Zhang Wenyu's absence at the ceremony disappointed Li Yang. After the ceremony, they called Zhang to invite Zhang to the dinner that day. When the dinner arrived, it might be due to Zhang Wenyu's insistence that the Chinese Embassy finally agreed to Zhang Wenyu's

participation. When Zhang arrived, the dinner was halfway through. According to the above report in Newsweek, neither the Chinese and American ambassadors were invited to the dinner that day.

The memory of Mr. Yang Zhenning is consistent with the report of the New York Times on the extraordinary security measures of the Swedish authorities. Also consistent with the December 10 report of Taiwan's "Central Daily News", the report said:

"The Swedish authorities have taken all possible measures to prevent these two Chinese physicists from being bothered by the Communists. News about their arrival time has been blocked." "The'Cultural Attaché' of the'Embassy' once led by the bandit The other two were waiting at the airport all day." "When Dr. Li Yang got off the plane, the gangsters approached them and said,'We congratulate the two.' When these gangsters were pushed by the representative of the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. open."

Judging from Mr. Yang Zhenning's memories and reports from various parties, Sweden has indeed invited envoys from the winner's home country for the award ceremony, and also abides by the "one China" principle, even though the nationality of the winner is "Republic of China". Still gave the invitation to the ambassador of the "People's Republic of China", and the VIP chairs were prepared for him. Ambassador Han Nianlong was indeed ready to attend the ceremony, but he gave up because he discovered that a Taiwanese "Central News Agency reporter" was present at the last moment. Therefore, the reason why China's official representative was absent from the Li Yang awarding ceremony became clear: because the ambassador of the "People's Republic of China" was unwilling to appear at the same time as the reporters of the "Central News Agency" on this occasion where Chinese people around the world should celebrate together.

The chairs left by the Chinese government representatives have been conspicuously empty.

In hindsight, this decision should be said to be a mistake. Although the "Central News Agency" is the official news agency of the Taiwan authorities, its reporters were present at the interview. No one in the world thought it had the meaning of representing the government. Ambassador Han obviously made a wrong decision back then. Zhang Wenyu himself probably did not agree to boycott the award ceremony. Later, he "going to the dinner party alone" played a role in making up for the situation, but he could not recover the loss caused by the absence of the ambassador. That is: the "People's Republic of China" gave up a historical opportunity to declare that it is the motherland of the two Nobel Prize winners.

In addition, it can be guessed that the absence of the Chinese ambassador at the award ceremony has made Li Yang an "overseas orphan" without a representative of the motherland to celebrate on this occasion of international attention, thus casting a little shadow on Li Yang's psychology and alienating them from this. The feelings of the regime. They would feel that the "motherland" that was in close contact for the first time was a bit "unpredictable" because the appearance of a Taiwanese reporter could refuse to attend their celebration. Perhaps this kind of psychological shadow has a certain degree of influence on Li Yang's decision to join the United States in the early 1960s?

What we know for sure is that the efforts of Yang Wuzhi and Zhang Wenyu did not persuade Li Yang to return to China to visit or settle down as soon as possible after winning the Nobel Prize in 1957. They did not go to Taiwan at that time, but they were obviously more worried about returning to the mainland. At that time, China and the United States were in a state of hostility, and they did not even have basic direct private mail. In terms of working conditions, a stable and good research environment, rapid and smooth exchanges between peers and between theory and experimentation, all this will inevitably become very difficult after returning to China. Their research must be maintained at an international level. At the forefront, I am afraid it will be difficult to achieve.

And behind all of this, there may be deeper thinking: Li Yang probably knew from the beginning that his own thoughts were incompatible with the mainstream ideology of mainland China. Li Zhengdao sent the University of Chicago alumnus Wu Ningkun back to China in 1951. I have said that I did not return to China because I "do not want to be brainwashed." (Wu Ningkun: "The Last Day of Yenching") Yang Zhenning also said something that might cause "misunderstanding" by the Chinese authorities in a brief speech at the dinner on the day of the award. According to the Associated Press, he "retroduced the Chinese Boxer Movement in 1900 The foreign coalition forces quelled this uprising and demanded compensation from China. Yang Zhenning said: The United States immediately returned a portion of the compensation it had received for the purpose of educating students. This measure is sufficient to explain what the United States is like. Country. I am a direct beneficiary of this measure, so I dedicate myself to science that originated in the West." (See "Reference News" December 13, 1957)

In addition to thinking, there are also worries: According to the article "Some Situations About Yang Zhenning" (in "Public Education News" November 19, 1957), Zhang Xiangbing, who accompanied Mr. Yang Wuzhi to Switzerland, said that Yang Zhenning was "disgusted with ideological reform". And "I think that China is peaceful at present, but after ten or twenty years, the old leaders will not be

chaotic again, it is difficult to say. I hope to find a quiet place for my children. There will be no civil strife in the United States. As soon as Yang saw Zhang raised this question within five minutes, Zhang did not persuade him." These words should be Mr. Zhang Xiangping 's report after returning to China (Zhang's son, Zhang Shoulian, is a good friend of Yang Zhenning at Southwest United University. Staying in the United States and not returning), if he did not distort Yang Zhenning's original intentions, it shows that Mr. Yang is deeply worried about China's political stability. The later development of history was unfortunately considered by him: between 1966 and 1976, a great turmoil occurred in China-the "Cultural Revolution". We can't guess what happened to him if he returned to China that year, but one thing is generally certain: his children will not have "a quiet place", and they are likely to be like the children of many returnees in the 1950s. Become a member of thousands of young intellectuals going to the mountains and the countryside. Today, when we review this small historical episode, we cannot help but admire Mr. Yang Zhenning's insights and foresight into history.

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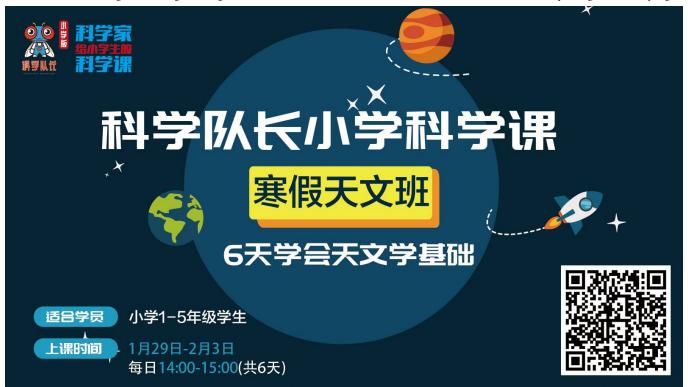
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