

IN MEMORIAM

CARL PHILIPSON

Carl Philipson has left us. Carl was born at the end of last century in a Jewish home in Stockholm which carried a fine cultural tradition. An ancestor, Philip Jeremias, had moved 100 years earlier to Sweden from Mecklenburg. A farsighted King and Government had determined, against the peoples' will, that Jewish merchants and industrialists from Germany should be invited to Sweden. This influx of persons with initiative and international connections had a great impact on the economical development in Sweden during the last century. Carl took an interest in his family and their traditions, an interest that after 1948 he extended to the newly-formed Jewish homeland.

Carl Philipson was a person with great and many-sided talents, who, after studies and a Ph.D. in botany, changed his course of life to devote himself to actuarial mathematics.

During the years 1935-52 he was employed by the FOLKSAM group, in the last years as Chief Actuary in Life and Non-Life. He devoted substantial energy to Motor insurance, particularly in the 50ies. The expression "bonus hunger", or as the French say "soif de bonus", was coined by him. His vast experience and theoretical insight made him a leading expert in Non-Life insurance.

Carl Philipson's main interest was, however, fundamental research. A practical problem often gave him a welcome opportunity for theoretical research of a general nature. Some of the results were of basic importance but presented in a way not particularly easy to understand for the reader.

Carl Philipson's profound knowledge in the theory of risk was documented in 1968 in the "Skandinavisk Aktuarietidskrift". Here he published "A review of the collective theory of risk" including a list of literature of 364 papers and works by 145 different authors.

Central in his presentation is the compound Poisson process, shortened cPp. His readers liked to understand the abbreviation to mean the Carl Philipson process.

When ASTIN was formed in 1957, Carl Philipson became member of the Board. The somewhat older members of ASTIN remember him as the organizer of the Colloquium at Rättvik/Sweden in 1961. As author of several papers he is well known to the readers of the journal of this Association.

Carl was a generous, liberal and very tolerant human being, tolerant towards others but also towards himself, which was not always understood by others. Carl was the friend of his friends. He found time to understand other persons' problems and, whenever necessary, tried to help them.

G. BENKTANDER