

Gunnar Källén 1926—1968



GUNNAR KÄLLÉN'S death in an airplane accident, October 13 at Hannover, Germany, is a great personal loss to his many friends all over the world, a loss to research and education in Scandinavia, in which he played an important role, and a loss to theoretical physics where his contributions are well known.

GUNNAR KÄLLÉN was a proud continuer of the tradition in quantum field theory established by WOLFGANG PAULI. His papers on quantum electrodynamics in the period 1950—1954 carried the non-perturbative approach to quantum electrodynamics forward to a point beyond which very little essential progress has been made up to the present day. I still remember the impact of the *Helvetica Physica Acta* paper of 1953. At that time I was trying to puzzle out the grammar of the language of quantum field theory, and here was KÄLLÉN already writing poetry in the language! The paper was followed by another, equally remarkable (*Dan. Vid. Selsk.* 1953). Even though we still do not know the answers to the main questions it tackles, its power and skill are overwhelming. For the