

K. K. SIEMENS

1899 — 1966

Kornelius Kornelius Siemens was born near Ufa, Russia, and immigrated to Canada in 1926, settling on a farm in the Balgonie-Pilot Butte area of Saskatchewan.

By 1937, after eleven years of drought and wind, Mr. Siemens realized the land would not provide for his growing family. He moved to Saskatoon and bought a general freight truck line business. At forty years of age he was gambling on building a career in motor truck transport.

With one old truck, long hours and much hard work, he serviced the Saskatoon-Beechy route for three years. He then sold his business at a profit and purchased a more lucrative franchise. A second truck was acquired during the 1940-42 period.

In 1943 Mr. Siemens began transporting gasoline for the Alaska Highway. After several months he returned from Alaska to haul petroleum and petroleum products, and machinery, in Saskatchewan.

Agreed charges resulted in most of the petroleum returning to the railways, but Siemens Transport adapted by increasing its share of machinery transportation and, in 1957, starting to haul bulk cement in air slide tanker trucks. Bagged and bulk cement, along with heavy machinery, still represent major traffic for Siemens Transport and Service Ltd. of Saskatoon.

Mr. Siemens was one of the founders, and served as a director, of the Saskatchewan Trucking Association. He was a strong supporter and promoter of STA truck rodeo programs, always ensuring that as many of his drivers as possible took the driver training course. Several captured top honours in this program.

In 1966 Canadian Trailmobile Limited presented Mr. Siemens with its Annual Award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the truck transportation industry and the Saskatchewan Trucking Association.

Mr. Siemens was also a member of the Canadian Trucking Association for many years. Throughout his career as a highway carrier he stressed the need for the trucking industry to improve its image and promote better relationships between truckers and the public.

Inducted into the
Saskatchewan Transportation Hall of Fame
June 1992