

## Daring and Determination

I'd like to share with all a bit of history. It involves four cousins, Gus Englund, Hjalmer Erickson, H. Westin, and S. Englund who braved the elements with bravado and determination.

Before daybreak on December 27, 1927, four woodsmen set out from Kenora, Ontario in a Ford Model T at -18 degrees Celsius.

This vehicle weighed just 1,200 lbs. with chains on its tires.

With some manual labour the cousins headed west to Winnipeg. Over Fox Lake and Shoal Lake, and with some travel on railway tracks, the foursome arrived in the city at 3 a.m. next day.

This trip made headlines in the Kenora Miner and News on the 28<sup>th</sup> of December. Telegrams from mayors of Kenora and Winnipeg were received.

Actually, the trip had been prearranged so a letter from Kenora mayor, A.T. Fife was brought along. The four received a grand reception at City Hall, where they were presented with a key to the city, and a banquet.

Next day, they visited the Ford Motor company, and registered as guests at the Manitoba Tourism Bureau. Next they headed back to Kenora. It would be five years before the actual highway would be built.

So, when the going got tough, the tough got going!

In the language of today, I can hear the four Swedes say "Let's get her done."

Written by Joyce Appel