

windows to keep out the cold," Mrs. Day recalls. She came with bad news a few days after Welty's arrival.

The Day family was struck down with infectious yellow jaundice. Could Welty come help? Yes, he could, and did, although his own crude home still let snow and wind whistle through the openings.

Help Your Neighbor

For three weeks Welty trudged back and forth the mile between his new homestead and his neighbor's place, doing the chores night and morning until the Days recovered.

Illness loomed large in the Weltys' life. Carl was sick himself the next three weeks after getting the children from Nebraska. The kids, Carl Jr., 9, and Bonnie, 11, brought measles with them.

Mrs. Welty herself was ill for most of the first 17 years the family spent on their homestead.

With help from neighbors, the Stearns, the Days, the Hutchins, Weltys got in their first crops. They had 13 stacks of grain that first year, left for later threshing as Welty went to Spokane to work a few months on the railroad to get a little cash.

He drove a school bus for 18 months, and that helped. So did the load of home-canned vegetables Mrs. Welty put up at North Platte from a garden watered from the well.

But the rest of it all came from the land, most of it from that first 104 acres. In the late 1940's Weltys bought another 80 along the highway from Clifford Leach.

A Boy Through College

For several summers, after Carl Jr. entered college, father and son leased extra places and farmed to raise money for next fall's term at college. Beans were the family blue plate special as a cash crop.

"We lost some top soil in the process, but the beans paid out," Welty recalls. An early frost nipped a couple of crops and one was hit by hail, but in all the years there was never a total failure like there was in Kansas and Nebraska during the drought years.

Carl Jr. went on from the University of Wyoming to Rochester University to New Haven Laboratories to the army to Harvard and then to his present job in the bio-physical sciences and industrial hygiene with the AEC.

Daughter Bonnie, now Mrs. John Wempen, is a farm wife at Pavillion. Her husband also works for Midvale Irrigation District.

Same Solid Foundation

The first solid foundation which holds the tie house is still home today for the Weltys. But you wouldn't recognize the place. Lilacs, spirea, forsythia and honeysuckle stand like bouquets around the place. An apple orchard leads down the slope, providing shelter for the Weltys ewes and lambs during their tender weeks.

A fine line of sheds and farm buildings stand on the hill above the farmhouse. Tree branches, cut from the Ross Bisbee place, were heeled in until they sprouted. This beautiful windbreak from native stock is now being supplemented by a new 6-row windbreak on the hill, trees standing 10 feet high, growing mainly from SCS nursery stock.

A laundry, utility and chore room has been added on the house where in winter Weltys separate and sell cream from their dozen milk cows.

One look at Weltys' place reveals that someone who cares lives there. The place is as neat and orderly as a Swiss chalet.

The Welty Philosophy

How have the Weltys, and neighbors like them, done it? Through hard work. By being conservative. By being modest in their wants. By putting back into the soil and their places their profits, their toil, themselves.

Neighbors up and down the road have come and gone. But Weltys, the Clair Days, the Ted Stearns are still there after 25 years, and they intend to stay.

"They say our forefathers pioneered. We did our share of pioneering, too," Welty recalls with great pride.