

Rosswell Estridge Webster, E. F. Webster's eldest son, staked a claim but someone else had also staked it, so he returned to Caldwell, Kansas. On March 4, 1894, he married Catherine Teter, who lived east of Caldwell. The returned to Oklahoma in 1903, bought 80 acres of land, (S 1/2 of NW 1/4 1-26-4) and lived there for many years.

Elijah Franklin Webster, youngest son of Thomas Webster and Elizabeth (Pulse) Webster, was married to Mary Elizabeth Ridings, daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Ambrose) Ridings in Highland County, Hillsboro, Ohio in 1865. They lived on a farm west of Hillsboro, Ohio, where six children were born. In 1885, they moved by train, from Ohio, and settled in the Caldwell, Kansas area.

On September 16, 1893, the Cherokee Outlet was open for homesteading. Elijah Franklin Webster (better known as E. F. Webster) and three of his children made the 'run' from the state border south of Caldwell. E. F. Webster filed on and proved upon the N.W. 1/4 6-26-3. This was their home the rest of their lives together. After Mary Elizabeth's death in 1921, E. F. spent the winter months with his two daughters who lived in Blackwell, and the summer months with his sons, Roy, Lew, and Estridge on their farms. He lived to be 93 years old, dying in 1934.

The Elijah Franklin Webster family was influential in the religious life of the community. They held church services in their home for several months. George James donated about 2 acres of land on the northwest corner of NW 1/4 5-21-3. A sod church was built on this land. Services were held in it until 1900 when a frame church was built. It was called Webster Chapel. Sunday School and preaching services were held in it until about 1921 when the building was moved into Deer Creek and became the north wing of the present Methodist Church there.

The Webster home was also a gathering place for social activities. Mrs. Webster (better known as Grandma) had a carpet loom in her home, and wove carpet and rugs for people for miles around. The people furnished the materials and Grandma wove it into 36 inch strips, then it was sewn together to make room size carpets.

This family of Websters struggled through all the hardships common to all the early settlers. People of those days raised most of their vegetables, meat, chickens, milk and butter, made their bread, spreads, and canned fruits from small orchards. The E. F. Websters had a beautiful peach and apple orchard on their farm where many people in the community came to get fruit.

The schools were a one room building, with all eight grades in one room and one teacher for all eight grades.