

Government of the Province of Saskatchewan

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Planning the Farmstead and Buildings

The erection of suitable farm buildings sooner or later occupies the attention of the western farmer. At the outset he uses temporary structures to shelter himself, his family perhaps, and such stock as he may possess. The adage that "a binder in the dry is worth two in the snow" doesn't worry him very much because he may not possess one. But we believe it is the better plan to put up temporary structures at the outset than it would be to erect a permanent building and not complete it, owing perhaps to financial limitations.

The Location.

The location of the building site is a matter of considerable importance to the farmer. The ordinary operations of the farm cannot be as economically conducted as they should be unless the farm buildings are placed to the best advantage in respect to their convenient situation to all portions of the land under cultivation. Several factors influence the final choice of a site. The water supply is perhaps most important of all. There is also the question of drainage, and whether we have a sufficient area of suitably lying land, and the convenience of the who e.

Water Supply.—In most cases the location of a good well will determine the situation of the farmstead. Everyone is familiar with instances where a settler has erected comparatively comfortable buildings before making sure of a permanent water supply, afterwards boring in vain for water, and finally having to abandon the original site and move his buildings at considerable expense to another part of the farm where water has been struck. A good water supply is *most* necessary.

Drainage.—By this is meant the general slope and lay of the land. As the water supply is of so much importance, it is most necessary to preserve it from contamination. If the supply is furnished by a well, the slope of the ground should be such that all drainage from barnyard or house will be carried in another direction. The ground also should lie in such a manner as to provide good surface drainage in order that water will not lie around the yard. Other things being equal, a south or