Meat Processing Plant

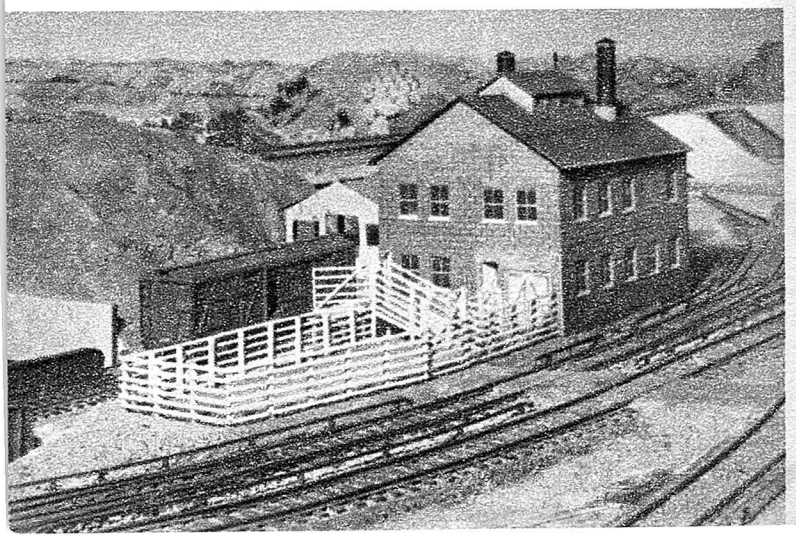
In most cases when making a building, lay your track in the best manner, then fit the building between sidings or alongside the track. Don't forget, of course, that one siding can serve more than one building.

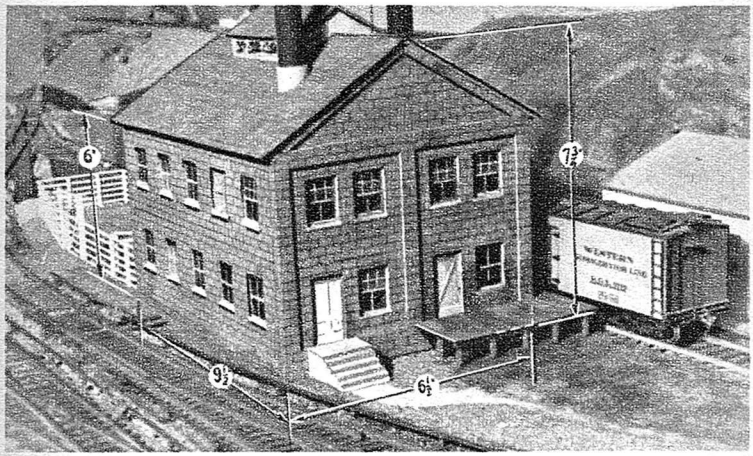
The meat processing plant shown can have its dimensions altered to suit the space available. This is especially true of the stockpen. Naturally, this can be used with the Lionel stock cars, and the Lionel stockpen can be used here or can be put at the other end of the layout. Then the cars could be shuttled back and forth.

As a guide, these dimensions are given: length, 9¼"; width, 6½"; height from base to ridgepole, 7¾". Make the doors 1¾" high by ¾" wide. Windows are 1¼" high by ¾" wide. On the side shown, allow one full inch at each end, then place a ¾" wide window. Allow ⅞" between windows. Other dimensions may be judged from these.

Notice that the far side is not shown. This happens be-

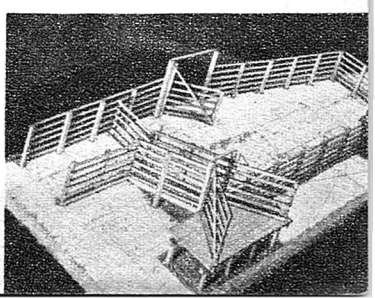
Photos by Frank Ellison; courtesy of Model Railroader.





cause the building was made by Frank C. Ellison of New Orleans on his cellar, round-the-room layout. A visitor cannot see the rear, which is only a few inches from the wall. Frank Ellison, considered by many to be the unsurpassed expert in this field,[1] rarely finishes all four sides of a model. This is one advantage of a layout against the wall.

This building can be the reason your cattle cars and refrigerator cars are used on your layout.

[1] Ellison's articles appear regularly in *Model Railroader*. Many of the ideas here and elsewhere are directly derived from correspondence and his writings.

To get the most activity from your cattle cars, make a cattle corral as shown here. Using Lionel stock cars, you can then put the Lionel corral at the opposite end of your layout. This will give you a good reason for shunting your cars back and forth, which should be done by your switcher while shunting cars.