

## Another Rise in Cement

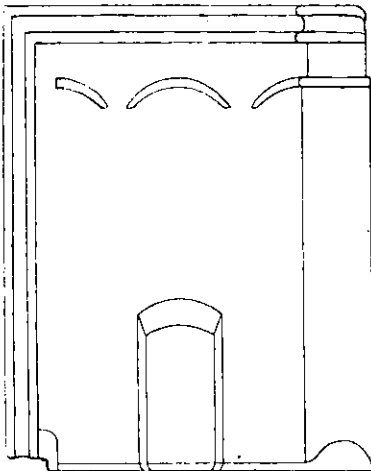
A second increase in the price of Portland cement since the outbreak of war has been made by the companies manufacturing in New Zealand. The first advance, equal to 4s. 6d. per ton, was made a year ago. In his report to the Auckland Harbour Board on Tuesday, the engineer, Mr. W. H. Hamer, stated that the price has now been increased 13.45 per cent., and the cost of all the Board's works will advance accordingly. The present advance is explained by the manufacturers to be due to the general increase in the cost of production, wages having been raised 10 per cent., by the addition of the war bonus, while raw materials and bags are much dearer and the coastal freight rates are higher.

## Destructive Fire

Last month a destructive fire in Newmarket, Auckland, destroyed the Taupo Totara Timber Coy.'s premises and stock valued at about £4,000, about 250,000 feet of sawn timber being destroyed. The plant was worth £1,000.

## Recent Patents

**Weatherproof Roofing Tile.**—A patent No. 36717 for a waterproof Roofing Tile has been taken out by J. S. Rose and A. J. Warren of Christchurch. The tile contains a con-



sealed continuous double watercheck. The check starts on the extreme edge of tile and continues across the top and down the side unbroken.

**Metal Sections for Window Sash.**—A patent No. 37,320 has been taken out by Alfred Woolnough of Dunedin comprising a main web piece, a glazing-strip projecting from said main web piece, and flanges projecting from the said main web piece in an opposite direction to the said glazing-strip, and an extending flange produced from one of the said flanges in a different plane, the two sections being used

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