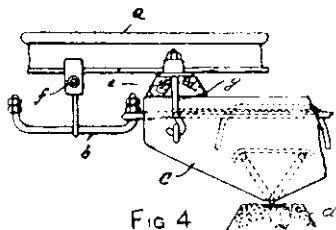


Longitudinal Concrete Sleeper.—A patent No. 2673 has been taken out by O. Valeri, Italy. It consists of a sleeper of pentagonal section the smaller face of which rests on a ballast block, the longer upper face being provided with wooden cushions to which the rail is anchored.



The sleepers are connected by longitudinal ties b and transverse gauge bars f which are provided with adjustable rail grips.

Roofing Galvanised Iron without the use of Lead Headed Nails.—A patent, No. 37,854, has been taken out by J. F. Johnson, plumber of 56 Bentley Street, Masterton which consists of a square of metal having two corners removed and raised beads running entirely around and parallel with the outer sides, the two upper beads any approved manner. The switch is formed by breaking away a short length of the main rail, and also a short portion of the length of the branch rail, such broken portions being disposed to extend from the point of junction. Two short lengths of rails adapted to respectively fit into the gaps in the main and branch rails are provided, and these are mounted on a horizontally moving bracket, and so disposed with relation to one another and the rails that when the bracket is moved across to one side the length to fill the gap in the branch will be in position in such gap so as to form a continuous line with the main, while the portion to fill the gap in the main line will be situated at a distance away therefrom and when the bracket is moved to the other side the positions will be reversed, the main line being complete and the branch broken.

Timber Colouring Artificially.—A patent, No. 37,844 has been taken out by Ernest W. Carpenter, chairmaker of 454 Anderson's Bay Road, South Dunedin which consists of a solution of copperas and water heated, and then forced into the wood.

Building Notes

AUCKLAND.

Tenders were called on the 13th inst for the re-building in brick of the Waipa hotel at Ngauruwhia. Architect, Mr. A. G. Daw.

A difficulty has arisen over the recent Arbitration Award granting 2d. per hour war bonus to general labourers and carpenters. The contractors for the new markets, Messrs Fletcher Bros. wrote to the city council asking that the council should pay the war bonus in addition to their present contract price for building the new markets. Although present contracts were exempted from the operation of the Award, as soon as work offered elsewhere the carpenters would naturally go, and great delay might conceivably be incurred by the contractors. Their plea that they should not be penalized through delay due to this cause is a fair one and the council referred the matter to the Works Committee for further consideration.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Mr. W. V. Wilson, architect, claimed £9 from F. Claridge in the Magistrate's Court this month as payment for certain plans of a house alleged to have been made by plaintiff under instructions from the defendant. The defence was that the work had been done at the order of a builder and not of defendant, and judgment was given for defendant.

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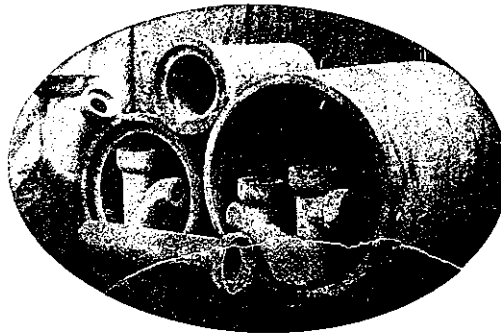
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