

wonderful and entrancing cities in the world.

A complete description of the city is hardly possible, as there is so much of interest that I am constrained to leave it to the choice of the student to map out his own course throughout the city. Needless to say, that one may spend a month in Venice and then not weary of it.

It might be well to refer to a few of the important points that should, of course, be seen, such as the famous old St. Marks facing the Piazza San Marco, while around the piazza, or square as we would call it, will be found some of the finest buildings in the city, such as the Campanile, the Library and Doges Palace with its beautiful stairway in the court.

The Campanile fell a number of years ago, but a conscientious government placed barricades around the ruins and employed experts to sort out the beautiful carvings which were all carefully repaired, and the tower to-day is the result—practically the identical tower that fell. I understand that even the old brickwork itself was used as much as possible in its reconstruction. An interesting point is that the Pope at the time, who was a Venetian, had a telephone line kept open through to Rome at which end he listened to the bells as they rang again in the tower following its restoration.

A trip across the lagoon should be taken to the Isola San Georgia from where a beautiful view of the city can be obtained. Also a trip to the famous recreation and bathing place, and if time will allow to the Cimitero (cemetery). This is also on an island by itself and is very interesting as many exquisite monuments and tombs are to be found there.

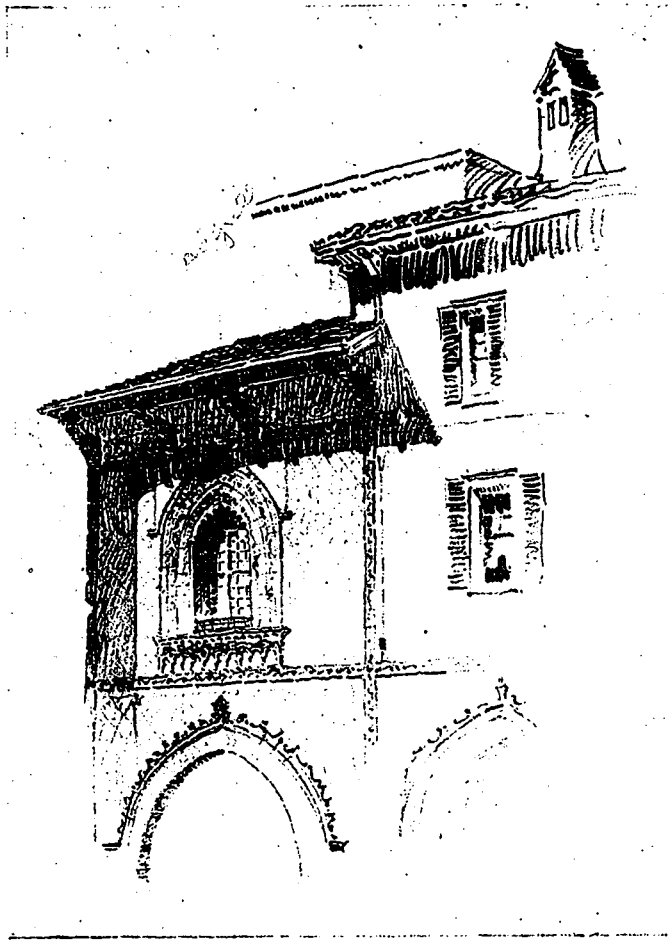
Throughout the city one will find a multitude of objects for study, especially the palaces along the Grand Canal, as well as innumerable little bridges spanning the smaller canals. Many beautiful balconies are to be seen and well worth study, as are also the Public Wells of exceptionally fine design, and it is well to remember that

Venice is famous for its lace, glass and brass work, and many pleasant hours may be spent delving about among the many interesting little shops.

### Novel Overhead Crane

A new type of overhead crane, specially suited for long spans where rigidity and lightness are important and difficult to obtain with ordinary forms, has been constructed by a British firm of engineers. Instead of the usual double

girder a single V-shaped girder is used. The hoisting ropes hang over the side of the girder, thus giving a higher lift than is possible with the standard arrangement where the hoisting ropes pass between the two girders. Other advantages are claimed for this interesting departure from traditional practice. It has been installed in the firm's own works with satisfactory results, the working load being 5 tons, the span 55 feet, the lifting speed 20 feet per minute, the traversing speed 120 feet per minute, and the main travelling motion 300 feet per minute.



PIAZZA DI MERCANTI, MILAN.

### Old Rails for a Coffor Dam

A novel method of constructing a coffer dam was employed by a British engineer in India when putting in the foundations for the abutment of a bridge. Piles were formed by joining old 20 feet double-headed rails head to head by iron bands. The lower ends were pointed and the piles driven at 61 feet distances. Mango plants were pushed behind the piles, and when bed-rock was reached, bags filled with clay were used to keep sand and water out of the dam. All the material used in construction was recovered after the work was completed, and the total cost was remarkably low.

Vancouver permits up to April 1st total \$878,593 as compared with \$263,020 in the same period last year.