M. REIGERSBERG.

COMBINATION SECTIONAL FURNITURE AND KNOCKDOWN SHELVING SECTION.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 2, 1917.

Patented Jan. 7, 1919.

1,290,782.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

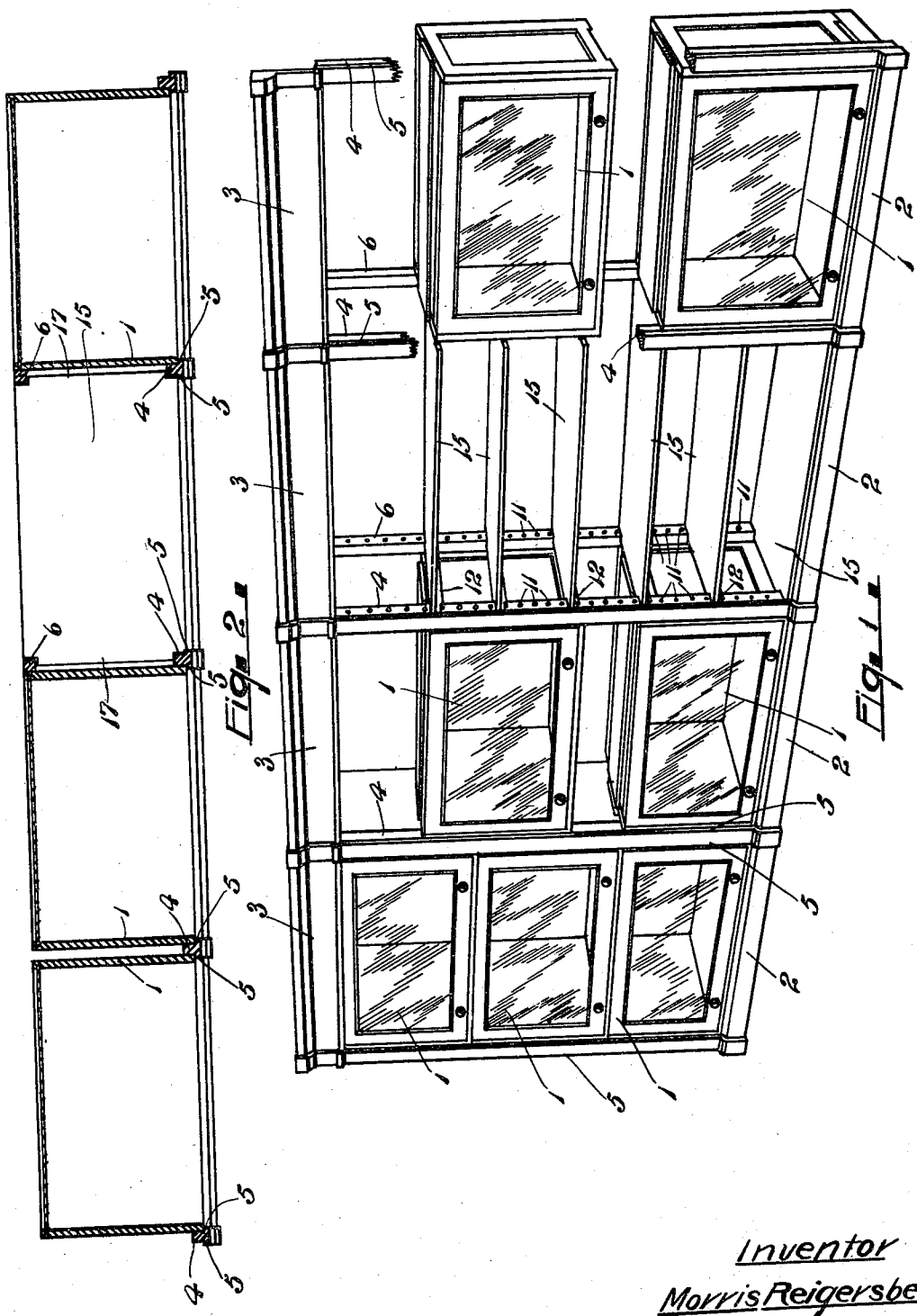


Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

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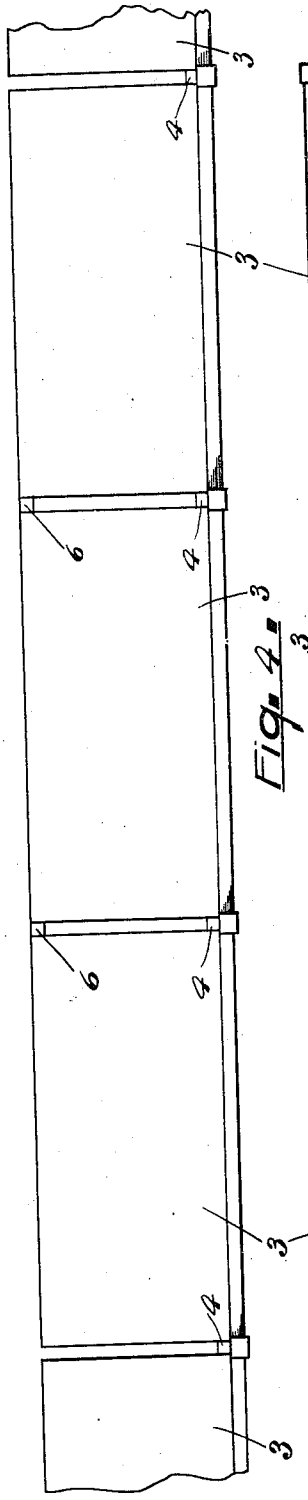


Fig. 4.

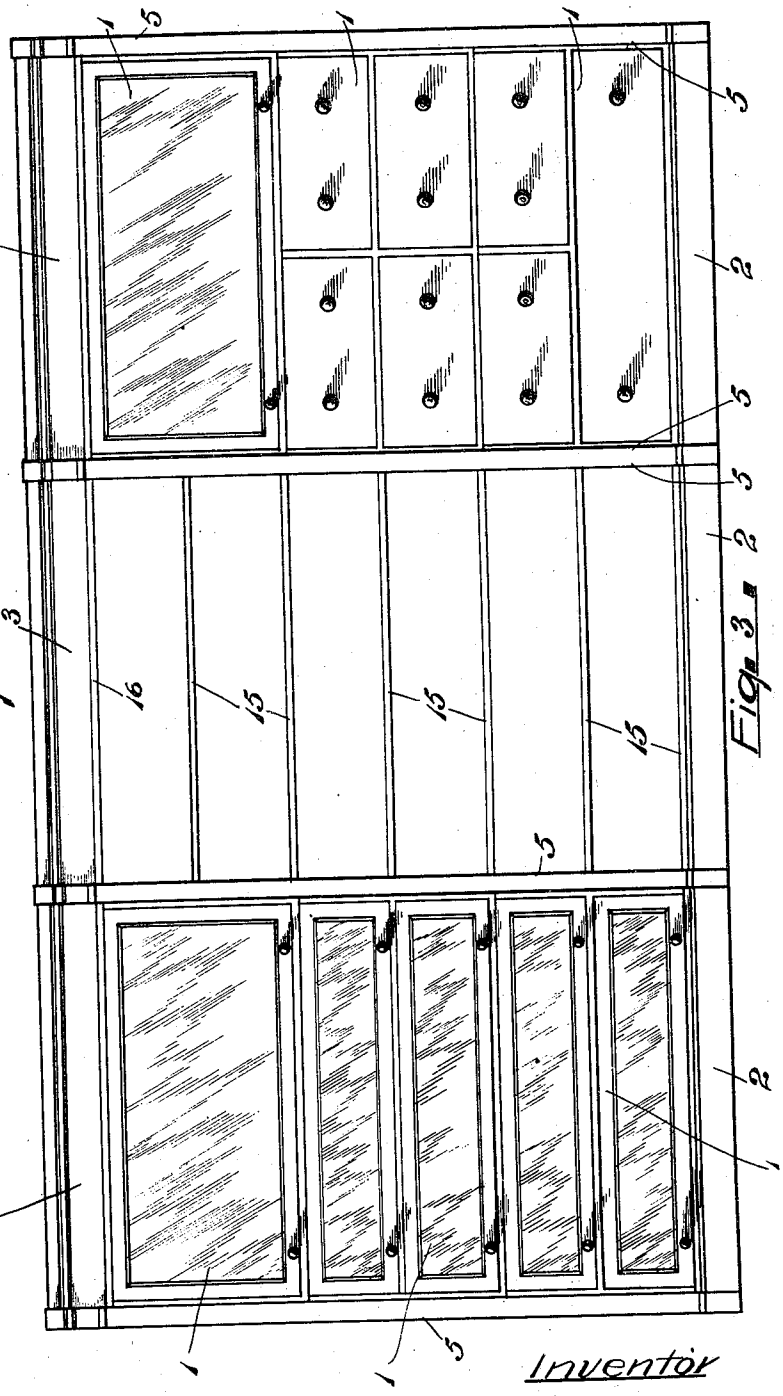


Fig. 3.

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

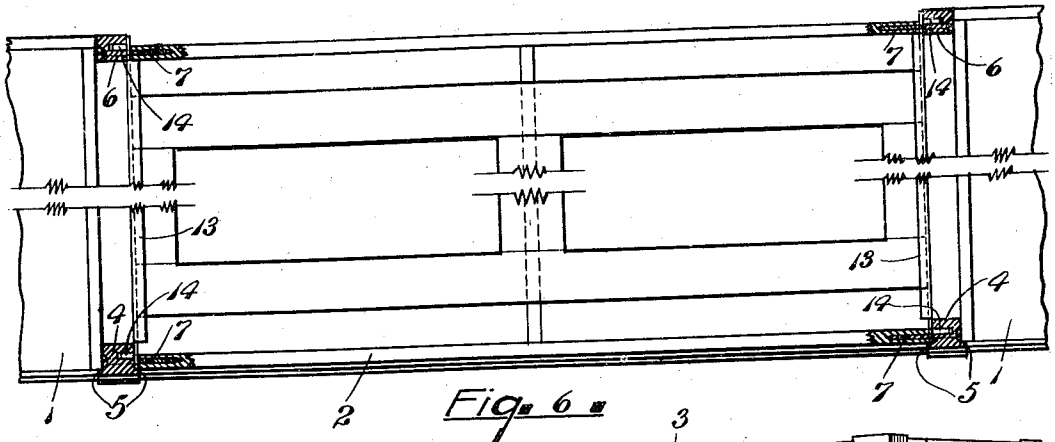


Fig. 6.

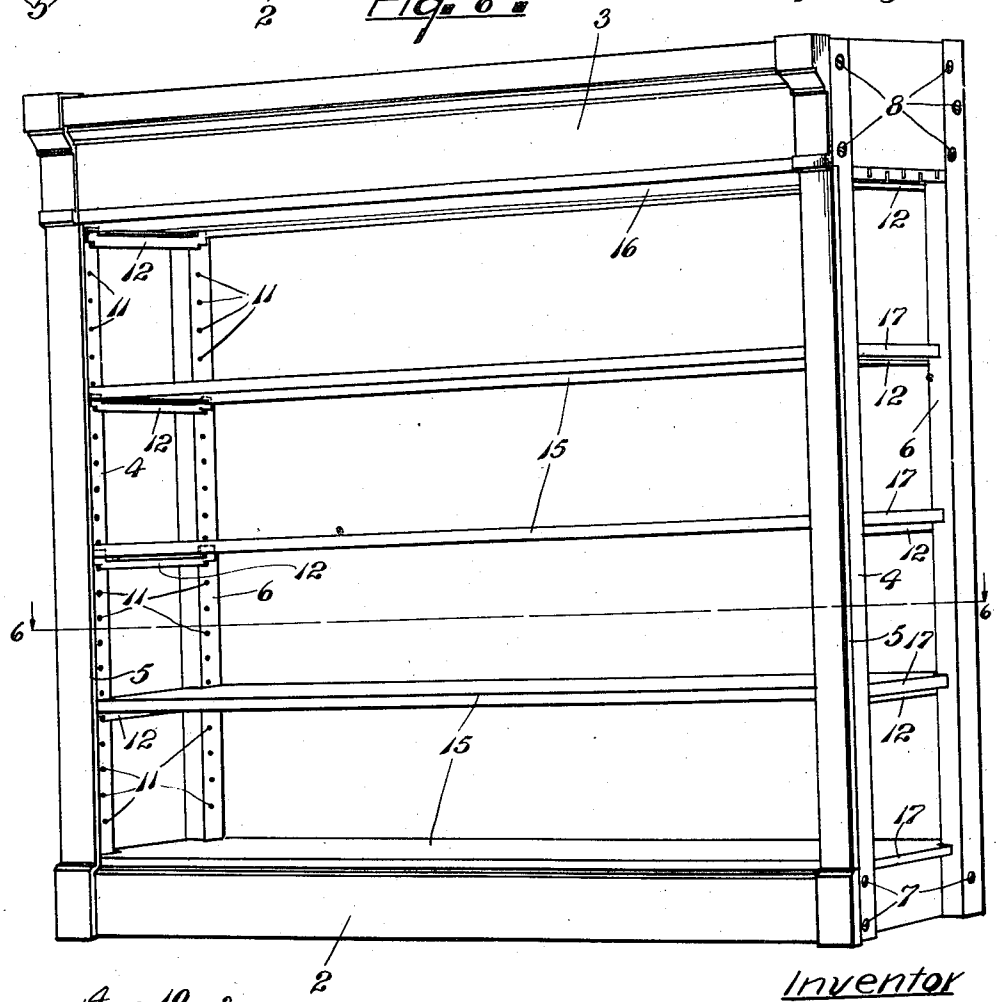


Fig. 5.

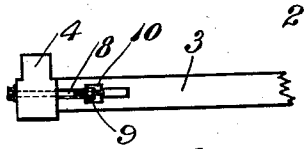


Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORRIS REIGERSBERG, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO GRAND RAPIDS SHOW CASE CO., OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, A CORPORATION OF MICHIGAN.

COMBINATION SECTIONAL FURNITURE AND KNOCKDOWN SHELVING-SECTION.

1,290,782. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 7, 1919.

Application filed July 2, 1917. Serial No. 178,192.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORRIS REIGERSBERG, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combination Sectional Furniture and Knockdown Shelving-Sections; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a combination sectional furniture and shelving unit adapted for use therewith. The invention has relation to and is adapted for use in connection with sectional furniture of the character shown in United States Patent No. 1,219,891, issued March 20, 1917. In such patented construction a plurality of sections are located in superimposed relation between a base and a top, said base, top and sections resting one on the other but being normally otherwise disconnected from each other. A plurality of said stacks of sections are located end to end in horizontal alinement, the adjacent ends of the sections and adjacent ends of bases and tops being spaced a short distance from each other. A post or pilaster enters the space between the adjacent ends of stacks of sections at their front edges and detachable connecting means are used to attach each section, base and top to the pilaster whereby there is in effect produced a sectional structure which has the appearance and effect of one built solid yet one readily disassembled and capable of interchanging. Each post or pilaster at its front portion is provided with laterally extending overlapping edges which serve to aline the sections and cover the meeting edges of the sections and the post or pilaster.

In the present invention it is a primary object and purpose to provide a shelving unit which may be substituted for and take the place of the usual stack of units or sections occupying the place thereof in any complete sectional structure. It is a further object of the invention to provide a shelving unit of this character which shall include a base, top and two front posts or pilasters and to make the shelving unit of knockdown construction whereby the other elements which enter into the construction of the shelving unit may at any time be eliminated if desired, leaving the standard base and top and pilasters with which may be associated a number of the regular and standard sections which go to make up a stack of sections as defined in said previous patent to which reference is made. By this means store furnishings including one or more shelving units may at will be changed to store furnishings in which the shelves are displaced and the regular and standard sections used in their stead without the necessity of throwing away the major portion of the shelving unit, the base, the top and the two front pilasters of the shelving unit being available for use in the section stack substituted.

For the attainment of these ends and of others not specifically enumerated the construction shown in the accompanying drawings has been produced in which drawings,

Figure 1 is a perspective view with parts broken away and disassociated one from the other illustrating the interposition of the shelving unit in an installation of sectional furniture.

Fig. 2 is a horizontal section taken through the construction shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a front view showing a shelving unit interposed between two stacks of sections.

Fig. 4 is a plan view thereof.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a complete shelving unit.

Fig. 6 is a horizontal section taken substantially on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5 with the shelves below the plane of said line removed and showing the manner of assembling said shelving unit with respect to a stack of sections at either end and

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary detail of construction illustrating the detachable connection of a pilaster to the standard top used in building shelving units.

Like reference characters refer to like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

The sectional furniture comprises a series of sections 1 which in use are superimposed one above the other to any desired or required height. The lowermost sections rest upon a base 2 while the uppermost carries a top 3. Ordinarily the stacks of sections thus assembled are located end to end in horizontal alinement the adjacent ends of

sections spaced a short distance apart. A post or pilaster 4 is inserted between the adjacent ends of the stacks of sections at the front thereof until stopped by overlapping lateral extensions 5 at the front of each pilaster. Use may be made of any suitable means in connecting the sections to the pilaster. Preferably, screws are passed through the ends of the sections into the pilaster 4 whereby a detachable connection of the pilaster to the sections is secured.

The shelving unit includes a base 2 and a top 3 and two front pilasters 4 having standard construction identical with the base, top and pilaster of the sectional furniture described. Two rear posts 6 are located at the back corners of the base and top completing the supporting frame for the shelving. Screws 7 pass through the lower parts of the posts or pilasters 4 and of the rear posts 6 into the ends of the base 2, and bolts 8 having slotted heads pass through the upper ends of said posts 4 and 6, threading through nuts 9 located in recesses 10 in the front and back members of the top 3, said posts in this manner being securely connected to the base and top but nevertheless easily capable of detachment therefrom by removal of the screws 7 and the bolts 8.

On the inner sides of each post or pilaster 4 and similarly on the inner sides of the rear posts 6 a plurality of openings or holes 11 are bored, the holes in any post or pilaster being located in vertical alinement. Shelf supports 12 or flat metal are each formed with a horizontal supporting ledge 13 and at each end are formed with outwardly bent lugs 14 to enter the openings 11 in such post. It is apparent that the shelving supports 12 may be adjusted to various positions along the length of the supporting posts 4 and 6. The particular construction of the shelving support in the present invention is not of any essential consequence being fully described and claimed in a copending application for patent filed by Anthony Vanderveld on 2nd day of July 1917, Ser. No. 178,190.

A plurality of shelves 15 are supported between pairs of shelf supports 12 located in the same horizontal plane at each end of the shelving unit between the supporting posts. In addition the upper supports 12 carry a cover 16 which is placed immediately below the top 3 serving to cover the underside thereof. Each shelf 15 is notched at its corners to receive the posts 4 and 6, leaving a projecting end 17 at each end of the shelf to pass between the front and rear posts of the unit.

The construction outlined may be used in place of the usual stack of sections and interposed at any desired point in the length of a horizontal series of said stacks. When thus positioned the front pilasters 4 occupy the position of the regular sectional furniture pilaster and the ends of adjacent sections may be secured thereto in the usual manner. If at any time the proprietor of a store wishes to dispense with the shelves and use the more complete, up-to-date, and more expensive sections he can do so by merely eliminating shelves 15, rear posts 6, upper cover 16 and the shelf supports 12 and place the sections in superimposed relation upon the base 2 of the shelving unit, using the same top 3, making use of the pilasters 4 at each end of the sections to complete the sectional furniture.

In many cases the expense of completely furnishing a store with a complete outfit of sectional furniture of the character outlined in the patent to which reference is made above is more than the proprietor wishes to incur at one time. By this construction of shelving unit he can interpose the same in the regular sectional furniture and at any later period complete his store furnishing by merely buying additional standard sections, putting them in place of the shelves. The knock-down feature of the shelving unit permitting its ready disassembly is of value in such substitution of units for shelves and a change can be readily effected without disturbing the other section units. The invention while relatively simple in character has proven especially valuable in actual practice. Various changes in minor detail of structure may be resorted to without departing from the invention. The disclosure made, accordingly, is to be considered as diagrammatic and illustrative of the invention rather than as limiting it to any precise detail of construction and I consider myself entitled to all modifications of structure which fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination, sectional furniture comprising a series of sections positioned one over the other in superimposed relation to make a vertical stack of sections, a series of said stacks of sections located in horizontal alinement with the ends of adjacent stacks of sections spaced a short distance apart, a post or pilaster located at the front of and between adjacent stacks of sections, means detachably securing the posts or pilasters in place, and a shelving unit including spaced apart horizontal shelves and two front posts or pilasters of substantially identical construction with the posts or pilasters between the stacks of sections and spaced a distance apart equal to the distance between the posts or pilasters of the sectional furniture, said shelves being detachably mounted on and carried by said pilasters, said shelving unit being interposed between stacks of sections and filling the space therebetween, and means for detach-

ably securing said sections of said adjacent stacks to the front posts or pilasters of the shelving unit, substantially as described.

2. In combination, sectional furniture including a stack of sections comprising a base, a plurality of superimposed sections resting on the base and a top resting on the uppermost section, a second stack of sections of similar construction located in alinement with the first stack and spaced a distance therefrom, a knock-down shelving unit comprising a base and top similar to the base and top of the stacks of sections, and two front posts or pilasters interposed between and detachably connected to said base and top with spaced apart shelves detachably supported by said posts or pilasters, the distance between the inner sides of said posts or pilasters being equal to the length of a section, said shelving unit being interposed between said stacks of sections and filling the space therebetween with the ends of said sections of the stacks of sections contacting with the outer sides of the posts or pilasters, and means for securing the sections of said stacks to the adjacent posts or pilasters of the shelving unit, substantially as described.

3. In combination, sectional furniture comprising sectional units each including a detachable base and top with a merchandise containing construction interposed therebetween, said units being located in alinement a distance apart, a shelving unit comprising a base and top of construction substantially identical with that of the base and top of the sectional units, and two front posts or pilasters interposed between and detachably connected to the said base and top of the shelving unit, the distance between the inner sides of said posts or pilasters being equal to the length of a base, top or merchandise containing construction of the sectional unit, said shelving unit being interposed between said sectional units and filling the space therebetween with the ends of the parts of the sectional units contacting with the outer sides of the posts or pilasters of the shelving unit, a series of adjustably mounted and detachable shelves carried by said pilasters, and means for securing said parts of the sectional units to the adjacent posts or pilasters of the shelving unit, substantially as described.

4. A shelving unit including a base adapted to receive a merchandise containing section thereabove with the section resting on the base, a top adapted to lie above and rest on the same or a similar merchandise containing section, two front posts or pilasters interposed between and located and passing alongside the ends of said base and top, two rear posts similarly interposed between the base and top and detachably connected thereto at the rear corners of said base and top, said front and rear posts being adapted to carry removable shelves, and means detachably connecting said base and top and posts or pilasters together, whereby said posts or pilasters may be detached to permit removal of the shelves and rear posts and insertion of sections between the base and top.

5. A shelving unit including a base section adapted to receive a merchandise containing section thereabove, a top section adapted to be located above and rest on the same or a similar merchandise containing section, a front post or pilaster located at the front of and at each end of said base and top sections, each of the front posts or pilasters including a part extending to the rear alongside the ends of said base and top sections and laterally extending edges in front of said rearwardly extending part, a rear post at the rear and at each end of the base and top sections, shelves detachably mounted between and carried by said posts or pilasters and means for detachably connecting said posts or pilasters to the ends of the top and bottom sections whereby the rear posts together with said shelves may be readily removed to permit the positioning of merchandise containing sections above the base, said sections at their front edges and at their ends thereupon contacting with the rearwardly extending parts of the front posts or pilasters and lying behind the inner of said laterally extending front edges.

6. In combination, a shelving unit including base and top sections, a post or pilaster positioned at both the front and rear at each end of the base and top sections and lying alongside the ends of the same, means detachably connecting the pilasters to the ends of the base and top sections, a plurality of horizontal shelves detachably carried by said posts or pilasters, a stack of sections located at each end of the shelving unit each stack comprising a base and top section substantially identical with the base and top sections of the shelving unit and a plurality of merchandise containing sections disposed between the base and top sections, and means detachably connecting the ends of the sections of said stacks to the adjacent front pilasters of the shelving unit, whereby the shelves, rear posts and top section may be readily removed to permit insertion of sections between the front pilasters and on the base, and a laterally extending edge to each of the front posts or pilasters of the shelving unit overlapping the adjacent front edges of the sections of said stacks of sections, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MORRIS REIGERSBERG