W. T. HORMES.

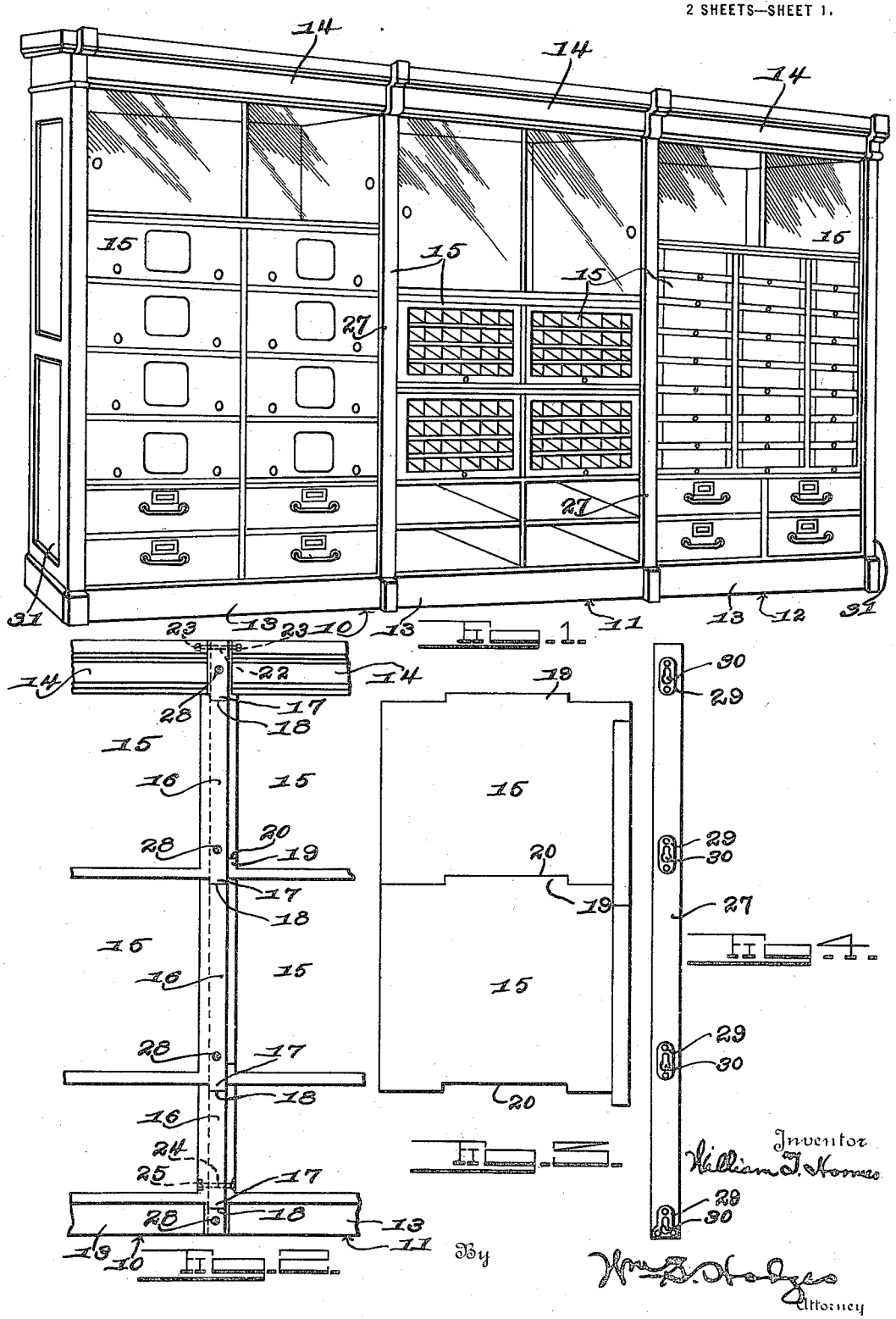
SECTIONAL DISPLAY CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 1, 1915.

1,195,817.

Patented Aug. 22, 1916.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

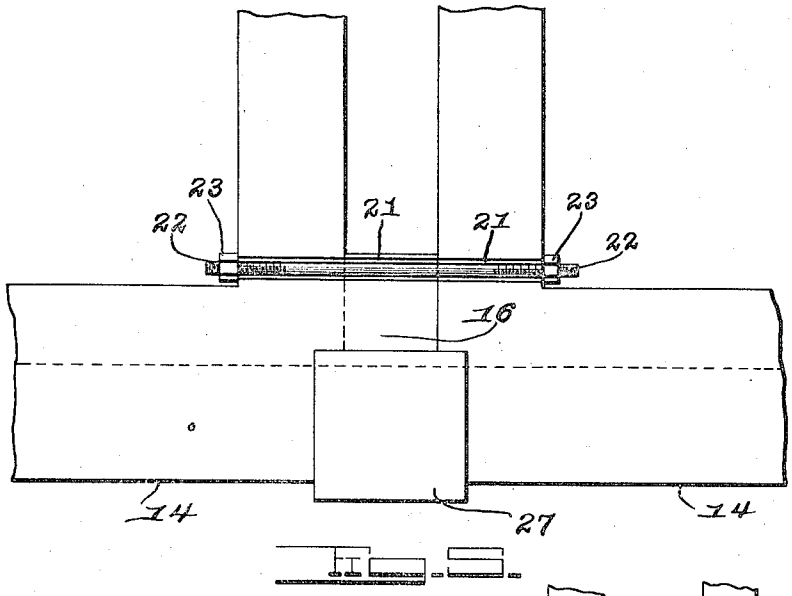


FIG. 5.

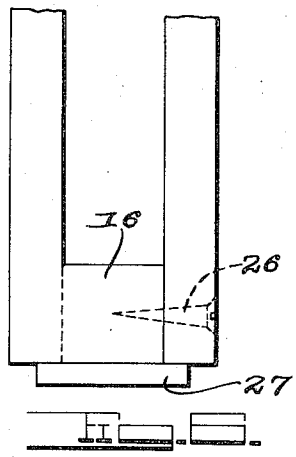


FIG. 6.

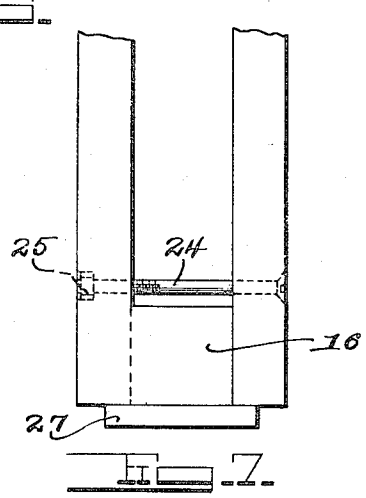


FIG. 7.

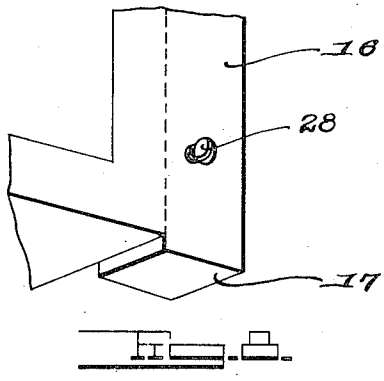


FIG. 8.

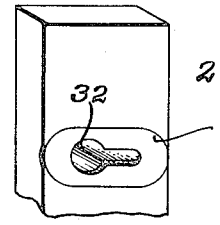


FIG. 9.

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SECTIONAL DISPLAY-CABINET.

1,195,817. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 22, 1916.

Application filed July 1, 1915. Serial No. 37,544.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. HORMES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Govans, in the county of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented new and useful Improvements in Sectional Display-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is a display cabinet of the type composed of a plurality of sectional units.

One of the objects of the invention is to produce a sectional cabinet for use in stores, warerooms, and the like, in which the arrangement and style of the respective units may be changed or altered at will, to suit different conditions that may be imposed by various merchants, or to permit ready rearrangement of the store display should the merchant consider it desirable to locate any special style or kind of merchandise in different parts of his store during different business seasons.

A further object is to provide a sectional cabinet of the character referred to, which will occupy a minimum of floor space, without destroying the architectural effect.

A further object is to provide means for rigidly uniting the stacks in such manner as to prevent relative movement of the units.

A further object is to provide means for maintaining a definite spaced relation between the ends of adjacent stacks of sectional units, and to provide interlocking means for preventing relative endwise movement of the respective superposed units of each stack.

The invention will be hereinafter fully set forth and particularly pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a sectional cabinet constructed in accordance with the invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view illustrating the abutting ends of two adjacent stacks of superposed units, the pilaster or facing strip being removed. Fig. 3 is an end view of one of the stacks, illustrating the spacing members. Fig. 4 is a rear view of the pilaster. Fig. 5 is a top plan view illustrating the topmost units of two adjacent stacks, showing the usual cornice, the pilaster being enlarged to conform to the cornice effect. Fig. 6 is a top plan view of a pair of the intermediate units, illustrating one means of uniting the stacks. Fig. 7 is a similar view illustrating a different means of uniting the stacks. Fig. 8 is a detail view illustrating the spacing member. Fig. 9 is a detail view illustrating a modification of the pilaster.

Referring to the drawings, three separate and distinct stacks 10, 11 and 12 are illustrated, each stack being formed of a plurality of superposed sectional units, comprising a base member 13, a top member 14, and intermediate members 15. To one end of each unit is attached a spacing member 16, the lower end 17 of which projects below the plane of the bottom of the unit, the upper end 18, being spaced a short distance below the plane of the top of the unit, to form a shoulder to receive the lower end 17 of the superposed unit immediately above. By means of this arrangement, the lower ends 17 of the spacing members overlap the ends of the units immediately below, thereby preventing relative end movement of the units forming each stack. Each unit of the respective stacks is also provided at its top with an upwardly extending tenon-like member 19 which fits into a correspondingly shaped recess 20 in the bottom of the unit immediately above, said member 19 and recess 20 serving to prevent relative lateral movement of the units of a stack. When a set of units is superposed one upon the other, to form a stack, the spacing members of said stack are in alinement and form spacing means interposed between the ends of adjacent stacks.

In order to unite the ends of adjacent stacks, to provide a rigid construction, and prevent relative movement of the stacks, any desired form of securing devices may be employed. In the drawings, threaded bolts are illustrated for this purpose, the top units of each adjacent stack being provided with slots 21, to receive threaded bolts 22. Nuts 23, working on said bolts serve to draw the contiguous ends of adjacent stacks together until the spacing members 16 firmly abut against the ends of the units of the next stack. The base units are similarly united by bolts 24 and nuts 25. If additional securing means are desired, the spacing members 16 may be united to the ends of the units forming the next stack, by passing screws 26 through the abutting ends of said units, into the spacing members.

By this arrangement the adjacent stacks are rigidly connected together, but may be readily disconnected to permit of rearrangement of the units or of the stacks.

In order to improve the finish of the cabinet, and to cover the joints between the abutting ends of adjacent stacks, removable pilasters or finishing strips 27 are provided. Any suitable means may be employed for retaining the pilasters in position.

For purposes of illustration, the spacing members are each shown as provided with screws 28, the heads of which project slightly, and the inner face of each pilaster is provided with a corresponding number of plates 29, having keyhole slots 30 therein. After the sections and stacks forming the cabinet have been arranged as may be desired, the pilasters or finishing strips are placed in position by passing the heads of the screws 28 through the enlarged portions of the slots 30, and then the pilaster is moved downwardly to cause the heads of the screws 28 to pass back of the plates 29, the shanks of the screws passing into the elongated portions of the slots 30.

From the foregoing it will be readily understood that the sectional cabinet herein described, may be readily assembled or disassembled, or rearranged as occasion may require, with a minimum expenditure of labor. By removing the pilaster or finishing strip, and disconnecting the bolts uniting the ends of adjacent stacks, the units comprising each stack may be readily lifted out without in any manner disturbing the units of any of the remaining stacks. It will also be noted that the spacing members completely fill the space between the adjacent ends of contiguous stacks, and when the stacks are united by the securing bolts, relative endwise movement is impossible, and that by employing the spacing members, the ends of the stacks are separated a sufficient distance to permit of the employment of a pilaster or finishing strip of such width as may be necessary to maintain the architectural effect desired. After the stacks have been arranged as desired, the ends of the cabinet are covered by suitable end panels 31 which are secured in position in any suitable manner that will permit of ready disengagement thereof.

It will be noted that the pilaster or finishing strip 27, acts as a lock to prevent vertical separation of the units of the stack, although in the form of the invention above described, the arrangement of the slots 30 is such as to permit of some vertical play of the sections when the pilaster is in position. In order to prevent such vertical play, the keyhole slots may be disposed laterally, as illustrated at 32, Fig. 9. In this form, the pilaster is attached to the spacing members by a lateral movement, and relative vertical movement of the sections to which it is attached, is prevented.

Having thus explained the nature of my invention and described an operative manner of constructing and using the same, although without attempting to set forth all of the forms in which it may be made, or all of the forms of its use, what I claim is:—

1. A display cabinet of the character described comprising a plurality of stacks of superposed sectional units, said stacks being arranged in alinement end for end, superposed sectional spacing members interposed between the contiguous ends of adjacent stacks and attached to the respective superposed units said spacing members being provided with means for preventing relative endwise movement of said units, and a pilaster removably attached to the spacing members of said units.

2. A display cabinet of the character described comprising a plurality of stacks of superposed sectional units, said stacks being arranged in alinement end for end, the units of one of each pair of adjacent stacks being provided at one end with spacing members movable with the units, said spacing members abutting the ends of the units of the other stack of said pair, one end of each spacing member overlapping the contiguous end of a next adjacent unit of the same stack, means for connecting the contiguous ends of adjacent stacks, and a pilaster attached to and covering the spacing members between each pair of stacks and overlapping the ends of said stacks.

3. A display cabinet of the character described comprising a plurality of stacks of superposed sectional units, said stacks being arranged in alinement end for end, the units of one of each pair of adjacent stacks being provided at one end with spacing strips movable with the units, said spacing strips being located near the front edges of the units and abutting the ends of the units of the other stack of said pair, the lower end of each spacing strip extending below the bottom of the unit to which it belongs, the upper end terminating below the plane of the top of said unit to provide a seat for the depending end of the spacing member immediately above, means for connecting the contiguous ends of adjacent stacks and a pilaster attached to and covering said spacing members.

4. A display cabinet of the character described, comprising a plurality of stacks of superposed sectional units, said stacks being arranged in alinement end for end, sectional spacing members interposed between the contiguous ends of adjacent stacks and attached to the respective superposed units of one of said adjacent stacks, a pilaster, and complemental means carried by the units and the inner face of the pilaster for pre-

venting vertical separation of the units, said means being shaped to be engaged by relative lateral movement of the pilaster and units.

5. In a display cabinet, a plurality of superposed sectional units forming a stack, a pilaster, complemental means carried by the units and the inner faces of the pilaster for preventing vertical separation of the units, said means being shaped to be engaged by relative lateral movement of the pilaster and units.

6. In a display cabinet a plurality of superposed sectional units forming a stack, attaching members carried by said units, and a pilaster having its inner face provided with a laterally disposed recess positioned to engage said attaching members by relative lateral movement, vertical separation of the units being prevented when the pilaster is engaged with the attaching members.

7. A display cabinet of the character described, comprising a plurality of stacks of superposed sectional units, said units being arranged in vertical alinement and said stacks being positioned end to end with adjacent ends spaced apart, sectional means interposed between the spaced apart adjacent stacks to aline the units and to prevent separate endwise movement of the superposed units of the stacks and to maintain the spaced relation of the stacks, means for detachably binding adjacent stacks together for the ready removal or interchangeability of the units of any one stack without disturbing the units of adjacent stacks, and a removable pilaster or finishing strip covering said alining and spacing means.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM T. HORMES.

Witnesses:
W. S. McKAY,
STEPHEN CAMPBELL.