

June 24, 1930.

C. E. STOCKS

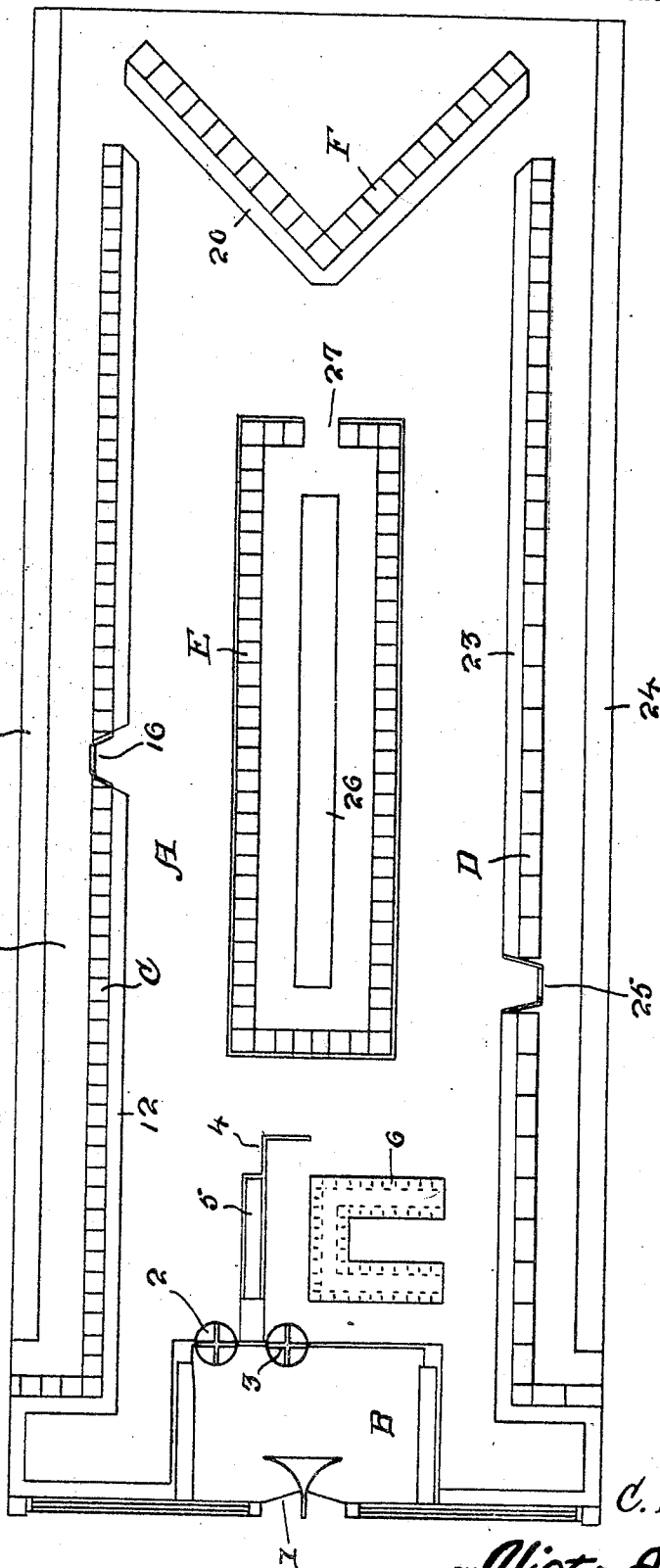
1,766,409

SELF SERVICE HABERDASHERY

Filed Sept. 24, 1927

4 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.



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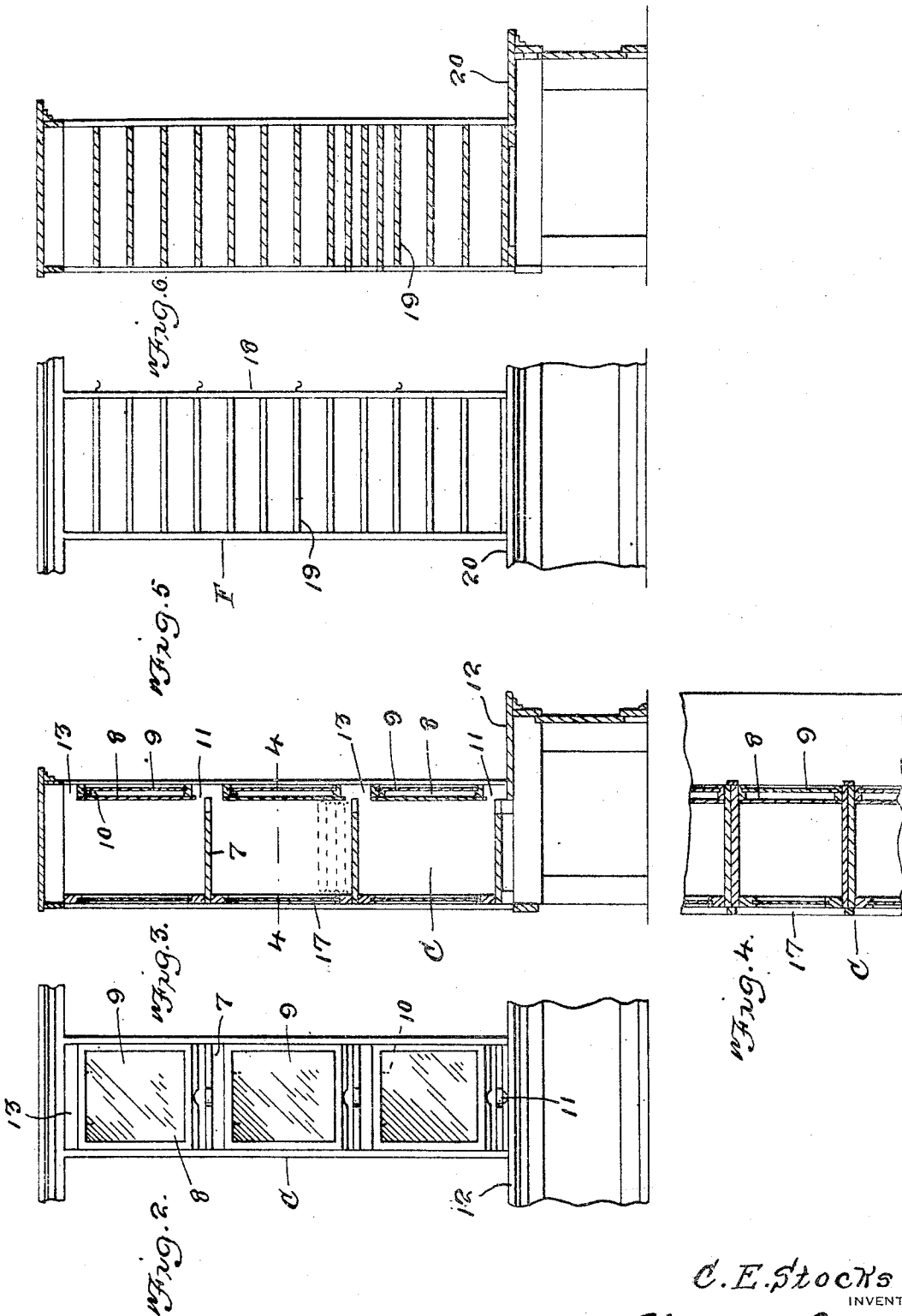
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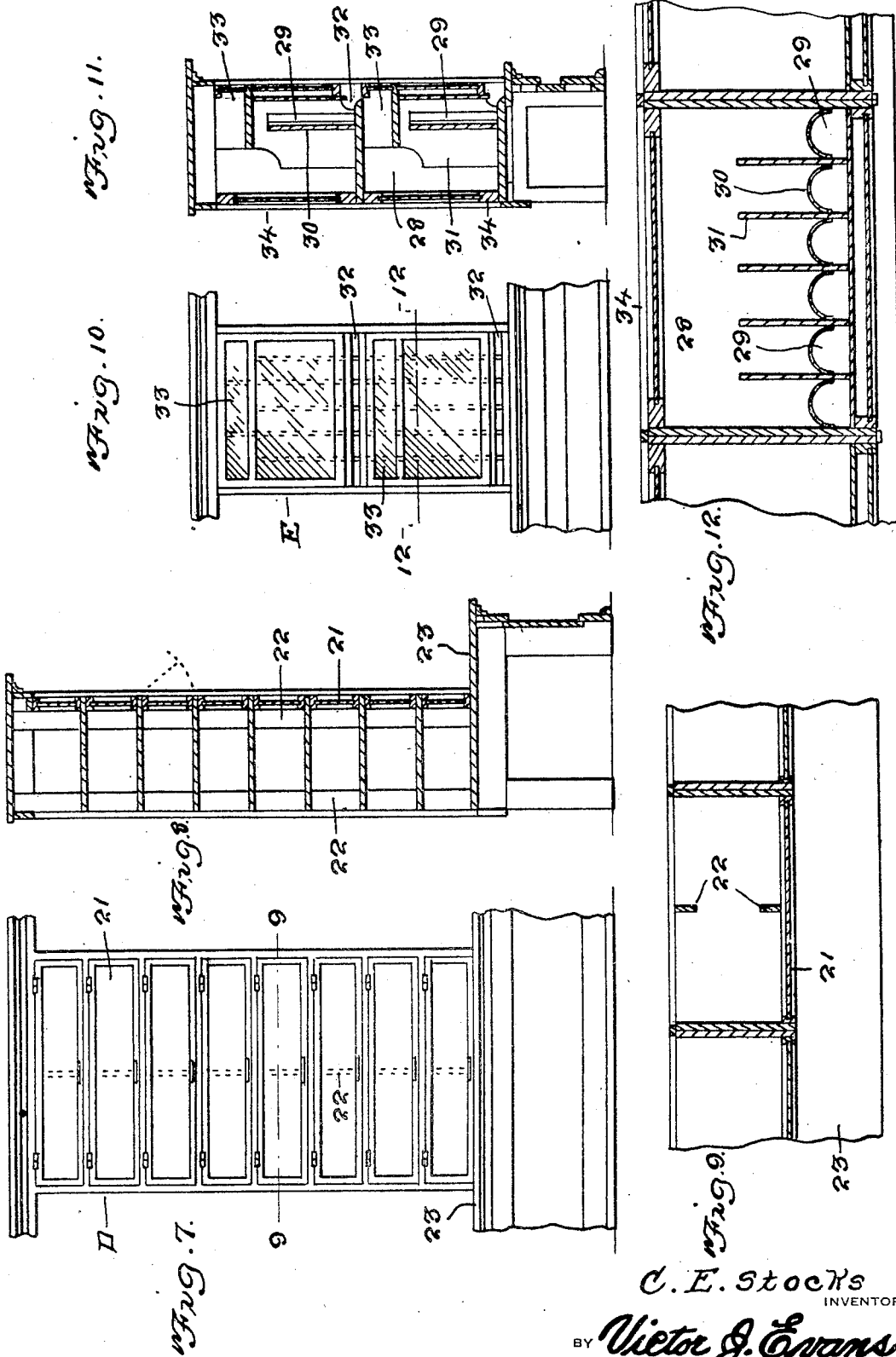
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SELF SERVICE HABERDASHERY

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Fig. 17.

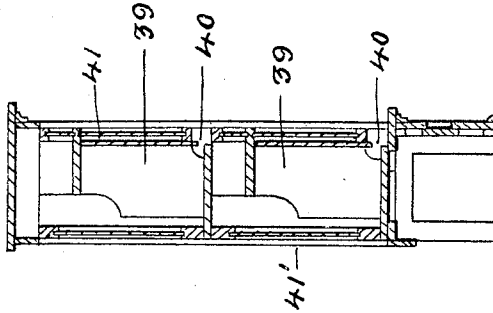


Fig. 16.

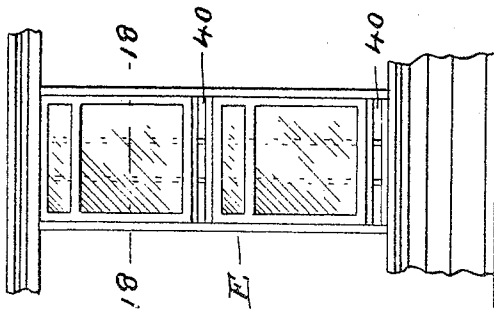


Fig. 18.

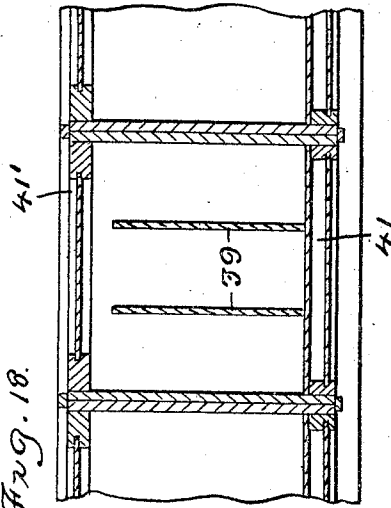


Fig. 14.

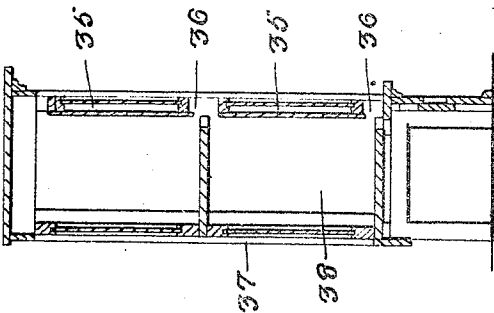


Fig. 15.

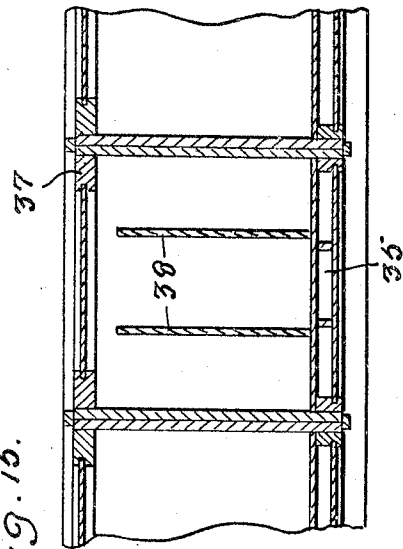
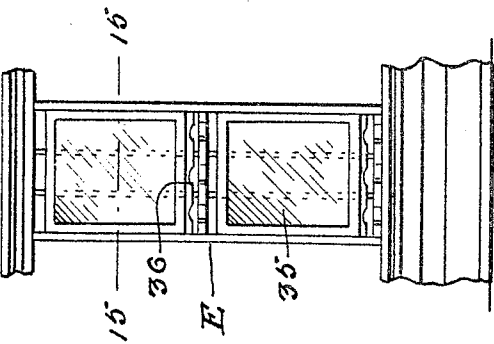


Fig. 13.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHARLES E. STOCKS, OF EL PASO, TEXAS

SELF-SERVICE HABERDASHERY

Application filed September 24, 1927. Serial No. 221,696.

This invention is a self-service haberdashery, the general object of the invention being to so arrange the fixtures in the store that a customer entering the store can walk through the same and see the various articles of merchandise carried in stock, so that it is not necessary to have clerks to wait on the customers.

Another object of the invention is to provide means for displaying to the customers samples of the merchandise being sold, with a rack back of each display means for supporting a plurality of articles like the sample and means associated with each rack whereby a customer can take an article from the bottom of the pile without disturbing the pile.

Another object of the invention is to provide stock racks in rear of the customers' racks so that a clerk can replenish the articles in the customers' racks from the stock racks, whenever necessary.

A further object of the invention is to provide a checker's counter at the exit part of the store which is provided with display means for miscellaneous articles, such as cuff buttons, collar buttons and the like, these articles being intended to be sold by the checker.

This invention also consists in certain other features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, to be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and specifically pointed out in the appended claim.

In describing my invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the improved store.

Figure 2 is a front view of portion of the dispensing means for shirts, underwear and the like.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view through Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a front view of portion of the dispensing means for overalls, sweaters, bathrobes and the like.

Figure 6 is a longitudinal sectional view through Figure 5.

Figure 7 is a front view of the dispensing means for hats.

Figure 8 is a longitudinal sectional view through Figure 7.

Figure 9 is a section on line 9—9 of Figure 7.

Figure 10 is a front view of portion of the dispensing means for stiff collars.

Figure 11 is a longitudinal sectional view through Figure 10.

Figure 12 is a section on line 12—12 of Figure 10.

Figure 13 is a front view of portion of the dispensing means for socks, ties and the like.

Figure 14 is a vertical sectional view through Figure 13.

Figure 15 is a section on line 15—15 of Figure 14.

Figure 16 is a front view of portion of the dispensing means for handkerchiefs, garters and the like.

Figure 17 is a vertical sectional view through Figure 16.

Figure 18 is a section on line 18—18 of Figure 17.

As shown in these drawings, the store A is provided with a vestibule B at its front, into which the customers pass through the doors 1 at the front of the store. An ingress turnstile 2 is arranged in a doorway formed in the rear wall of the vestibule and an egress turnstile 3 is arranged in a doorway in said wall. A partition 4 extends into the store from the vestibule and separates the turnstiles. A rack 5 is arranged adjacent this partition so that persons entering through the turnstile 2 can pick up baskets or the like placed in this rack. The checker's counter 6 is placed adjacent the other side of the partition so that a clerk at this counter can check over the purchases made by a customer ready to leave the store and receive the money and, if desired, wrap the articles purchased. The customer leaves the store through the turnstile 3.

Bins C are arranged at one side of the store, other bins D are arranged at the opposite side of the store, bins E are arranged in

a rectangular square at the center of the store, these latter bins being of much less height than the side bins and bins F are arranged in a V at the rear end of the store. The bins C are arranged in vertical rows, as shown in detail in Figures 2 and 3, the bins in each row being separated by the horizontal partitions 7. Each bin has a small casing 8 formed at its front, which is provided with a transparent front part 9. Hooks 10 or other fastening means are placed in the top of each casing 8 so that a shirt, underwear or the like can be placed in the casing and it will be visible through the transparent portion thereof. The article placed in the casing is a sample or duplicate of the articles placed in the bin or rack to which the casing is attached. Thus a customer, glancing at the articles on display, will know which bin contains the articles which suits his fancy. A space 11 is formed below the casing and communicates with the bottom of the bin so that a customer, after making his selection from the samples on display, can place his hand through the opening 11 of the bin containing the article which he desires and thus pull from the bin one or more of the articles. The articles are placed in individual envelopes.

If it should happen that the customer should change his mind after pulling an article from a bin, he could place the article on the counter 12 running along the lower ends of the bins, as shown in Figures 2 and 3. Then a clerk could replace the article through an opening 13 formed in the bin above the display casing. Each display casing would, of course, contain the price of the article and the size.

A stock rack 14 is placed in rear of the row of bins C and an aisle 15 is formed between the row of bins C and this rack. Access to the aisle may be had through the mirror covered doors 16 which divide the row of bins C into two parts. Thus when the piles of articles in the bins need replenishing, a clerk can pass into the aisle 15 through the doors 16 or he can walk around the rear end of the row of bins and can take the articles from the racks 14 and pass them through the doors 17 formed at the rear of the bins C into the bins.

The bins F, used for overalls, sweaters, bathrobes and the like, are formed of the vertical pieces 18 and the horizontal partitions 19. Some of these horizontal partitions may be removed so as to increase the spaces formed by the partitions. In these bins each article is placed between a partition, as such articles usually are not wrapped and it is, therefore, necessary to have them separated so that a customer will not upset a pile of articles in pulling one from the pile. Each article, resting upon an individual shelf, is not only visible, but can be removed without interfering with any of the other articles. A shelf 20 runs along these

bins in the same manner as with the bins C. As shown in Figure 1, the bins F are arranged in the form of a V so as to place the maximum number of bins in the minimum amount of space.

The bins D, placed on the opposite side of the store from the bins C, are used for vending hats, caps and the like. These bins are shown in detail in Figures 7, 8 and 9. The front of each bin is closed by a glass door 21 which swings upwardly so that it will close under the action of gravity. Each shelf of each bin is adapted to hold two hats, the bin being divided into two sections by the small division strips 22. The hats or caps are visible through the glass doors 21 and the customer can take the desired article by opening the door and removing the hat from the bin. These bins are provided with the counters 23 and they have the stock racks 24 back of them the same as the bins C. The aisle between the rack 24 and the bins D can be reached through the mirror covered doors 25.

The bins E are arranged in a hollow rectangle at the center of the store and these bins are of such a height that a person can look over them. The stock racks 26 for these bins are arranged in the space formed by the bins and access to said space is had through the door 27 formed by omitting a vertical row of bins at one end of the rectangle. These bins are used for vending socks, ties, soft and stiff collars, handkerchiefs, garters and the like.

The bins for the stiff collars are shown in detail in Figures 10, 11 and 12. Each chamber 28 is divided at its front into a number of vertically arranged semi-circular bins 29 by the curved partitions 30 and the straight partitions 31. Each collar is wrapped into a roll and the collars placed one upon the other in each bin 29. The customer can place his hand in the space 32 formed at the bottom of each bin 29 and remove the lowermost wrapped collar therefrom. The other collars can move downwardly and fill the space formerly occupied by the collar just removed. The chamber 28 is provided with a plurality of display casings 33, one for each bin 29 so that the customer can see the style and type of collar contained in each bin, together with the price and size. The rears of the chambers 28 are formed with doors 34 by which the stock can be replenished in the bins 29, when desired.

Figures 13, 14 and 15 show the bins for socks, ties and the like. These bins are arranged somewhat similar to the bins for the shirts, except that they are made small. Each bin is formed with a casing 35 in its front which is provided with a transparent front so that a sample or duplicate of the article in the bin can be placed in this casing so that it will be visible to the customer together with the price, size and any other in-

formation desired. These articles are wrapped individually and are removed one by one from the spaces 36 formed below the casings 35. The bins can be replenished from the stock racks through the rear doors 37. I may divide each bin into a number of sections by the vertical partitions 38 so that a number of piles of articles can be placed in each bin, as shown in detail in Figures 13 and 15.

Figures 16, 17 and 18 show the bins for handkerchiefs, garters and the like. These bins are made somewhat similar to those just described and each compartment is divided into a plurality of bins by the partitions 39 and the articles are taken from the bottom of the pile by the customer placing his hand through the space 40 at the bottom of each bin. A display casing 41 is arranged in the front of each bin in order to display a duplicate of the articles in each bin. These bins are also provided with the rear doors 41 so that they may be replenished from stock whenever necessary.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided means for displaying samples or duplicates of articles sold in the store, together with the prices, sizes and other information necessary so that a customer can pick out the article that suits him and then, by running his hand in a space under the casing in which the article is displayed, can secure a similar article. After finishing his purchase, the customer would pass to the checking counter where he would pay for his purchases and have them wrapped, if desired. At this checker's counter, he can make purchase of small articles, such as collar buttons, cuff buttons and the like. By displaying a sample of each article sold in the store, the customer can make his selection and then wait on himself just as well as if he was being served by a clerk. Wherever possible, the articles are wrapped individually so that they will not be soiled by handling or in other ways.

By having the stock racks adjacent the bins or vending racks, the latter can be quickly and easily replenished whenever necessary.

It is thought from the foregoing description that the advantages and novel features of my invention will be readily apparent.

I desire it to be understood that I may make changes in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claim.

What I claim is:—

Shelving for use in self-serving stores, comprising a base, pairs of uprights mounted on said base, a top extending across said uprights, a plurality of shelves extending between each pair of uprights and a plurality of members having shallow compartments

therein and provided with transparent fronts, secured at their opposite ends to each pair of uprights above and below and at the front of said shelves, the upper and lower edges of each of said members being vertically spaced from said shelves, whereby articles of merchandise may be withdrawn from below the lower edge of each of said members and returned to said shelves over the upper edges thereof.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.  
CHARLES E. STOCKS.

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