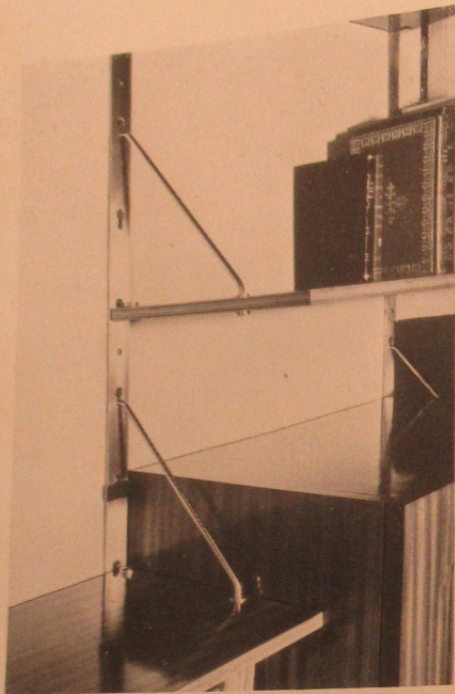
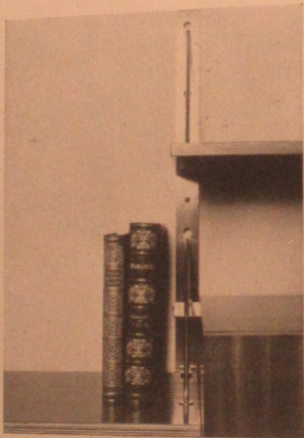


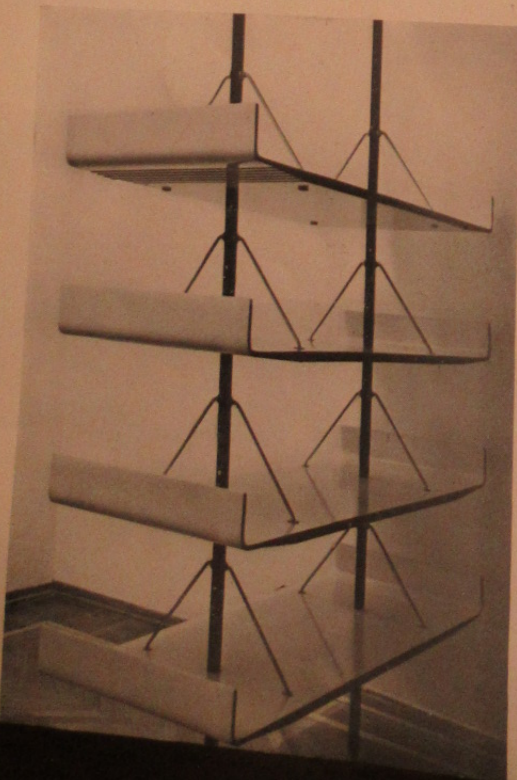
ideas for shelving systems



Distance between shelves is variable in both systems, the vertical supports being pierced with regularly spaced eyes for easy threading of the wires that hook and bolt the shelves.



Wall-hung system (left) uses rich brass, mahogany. Wall-free system (bottom) makes elegant contrast between graceful, tapering, light-colored, apparently insubstantial shelves and square, black pipes that pierce them.



ANGELO MANGIAROTTI

The Italians have been unusually inventive in devising structures that perform the functions of bookshelves, cupboards, chests, and closets with greater adaptability and versatility than standard furniture or architectural built-ins. The two systems by architect Angelo Mangiarotti have one thing in common: a wire suspender angled from the vertical support and hooking through the shelf. The wall-free model shown at left and at the top of the opposite page is not mass produced but looks so, having no parts that could not be made and finished on machines. The more luxurious wall-hung system is also simple enough for the production line, except for the hand work one might want to invest in the mahogany-veneered plywood planks and cabinets. In both systems each shelf is firmly held at no fewer than four points. The wall-free structure depends on two

square pipes pressed
ceiling between disks
The shelves are plywood
airplanes — tapering
the plies are terminated
and then molded
The functional logic
in the leaf-spring
the delicate shelf
heavy weight. The
allows a good use of
make useful, graceful



... pipes pressed against floor and
 rolling between disk-like feet and heads.
 The shelves are plywood produced for
 airplanes — tapering towards the ends as
 the plies are terminated in step formation
 and then molded to turn up abruptly.
 The functional logic of the taper lies
 in the leaf-spring action which enables
 the delicate shell to hold a relatively
 heavy weight. The width of the shelves
 allows a good use of them; the curled ends
 make useful, graceful guards.—O.G.



Top: tapering plies make stripes in wall-free shelves. Below: wall-hung shelves are un-tapered, but so thin that objects on them seem to float, in a trompe l'oeil effect, enhanced by Mangiarotti's nostalgic melange.

