of materialism's first phase, its origin among the Ionian Greeks and evolution in the world of antiquity.

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THE PHYSIOLOGY OF THE INSECT CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM: Papers from the 12th International Congress of Entomology held in London, 1964—J. E. Treherne and J. W. L. Beament, Eds.—Academic Press, 277 p., illus., \$10. Summaries and reports of interest to the general biologist and the specialist, dealing with the most recent discoveries in insect neurophysiology.

POLITICS, LAW AND RITUAL IN TRIBAL SOCIETY—Max Gluckman—Aldine Pub. Co., 339 p., photographs, maps, \$7.50. A systematic introduction and step-by-step survey of the cumulative development of anthropological analysis of tribal institutions, from the 19th century to the present.

PROPAGATION OF SHORT RADIO WAVES—Donald E. Kerr—Dover, 728 p., charts, graphs, paper, \$3. Reprint (1951), originally Vol. 13 in M.I.T. Radiation Laboratory Series.

PUZZLES AND PARADOXES—T. H. O'Beirne
—Oxford Univ. Press, 238 p., diagrams, \$5.75.
Collection of attractive and comprehensible mathematical problems for mental recreation.

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RADAR 8YSTEM ENGINEERING—Louis N. Ridenour, Ed.—Dover, 748 p., diagrams, paper, \$3. Reprint (1947), originally published as Vol. 1 in the M.I.T. Radiation Laboratory Series.

REGIONS, RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC GROWTH—Harvey S. Perloff and others—Univ. of Neb. Press, 716 p., illus, paper, \$1.95. Deals with concepts of economic growth and decline in relation to natural resource activities.

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SOIL CONSERVATION IN PERSPECTIVE—R. Burnell Held and Marion Clawson—Johns Hopkins Press, 344 p., maps, \$7.50. Examines theoretical aspects of the man-resources relationship, evaluates the work that has been done and outlines systematically those areas requiring further investigation.

THE SOVIET UNION: A view from Within—Franklin Folsom—Nelson, 224 p., photographs, \$3.25. A very friendly look at the people of Russia today.

TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC STATUS OF MAGNESIUM-LITHIUM ALLOYS: A Report to Industrial and Defense Management—Paul D. Frost—NASA (GPO), 46 p., photographs, paper, 25¢. On the general characteristics of the alloys, their

current applications and economic considerations for their future use.

THEORY OF FUNCTIONS OF A COMPLEX VARIABLE, Vols. I and II—A. R. Forsyth—Dover, 3rd ed., 855 p., paper, \$2.50 each, two-vol. set \$5. Reprint (1918).

WAVEFORMS—Britton Chance and others, Eds., Office of Scientific Research and Development, National Defense Research Committee—Dover, 785 p., illus., paper, \$3.25. Reprint (1949).

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. I, No. 1—Office of the Federal Register—GPO, 25 p., paper, subscription, \$6 per year. Published every Monday, contains statements, messages and other Presidential materials received up to 5:00 p.m. the preceding Friday.

THE WILDLIFE OF AFRICA—Jocelyn Arundel—Hastings, 120 p., illus. by W. Dennis, \$3.95.
Tells young people about the problems of the vanishing species and the resulting establishment of animal conservation programs in Africa.

WINDOWS ON THE WORLD—Anne Terry White and Gerald S. Lietz—Garrard Pub. Co., 80 p., illus. by Ted Schroeder, \$2.07. Tells children about the five senses.

THE WORLD OF THE FOREST—Henry Clepper and Arthur B. Meyer—Heath, 122 p., photographs, paper, \$1.32. Text and reference on the scientific management of forests, written by a professional forester especially for students and general readers.

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## Nature Note

### **Venus Flower Basket**

THE VENUS Flower Basket, Euplectella, is a glass sponge, made up of selicious spicules, with a curved tubular skeleton of glistening white, delicate lattice-work.

The beautiful glass sponges live at depths

The beautiful glass sponges live at depths of 1,500 to 15,000 feet off islands in the Pacific Ocean around the Philippines and Japan. They sometimes house a pair of shrimp that enter the living network when very small and remain safe but imprisoned in its meshes as the whole system grows

in its meshes as the whole system grows. Glass sponges belong with the "lower" creatures in the animal kingdom. Living in the deep sea, they are radially symmetrical, which means they have similar parts regularly arranged around a central axis. They grow into strange and beautiful solitary shapes resembling vases, cups, funnels or cylinders.

Sponges belong to the great phylum called Porifera which means "pore bearers." Pores or openings in the body wall permit water to swirl through the sponge body into a central cavity and out through an opening at the top. Food and oxygen are supplied to the animal by this constant flow of water.

Sponges are classified according to the composition of their skeletons. Some are chalky or limy, while others are softer and grow in the shape of horns. Bath sponges are in this horn sponge group.

When young, sponges are not attached to anything but swim freely about the water. Then they attach themselves to rocks, shells or other solid objects and become sedentary. Because of this plant-like appearance and sedentary behavior, scientists grouped them in the plant kingdom for a long time, until about 1857.

Man has used the dried and cleaned skeletons of sponges for centuries for bathing, and scrubbing floors and furniture. The Greeks used them also as padding in their shields and armor, and the Romans used them as mops and paint brushes.

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