

polyploid animal remains almost the same as that of the diploid one. Similar instances of polyploid plants, where in spite of larger size of the cells, the plant size on the whole remains normal is reported by Hagerup (1932) in *Euphorbia granulata*. Fankhauser (1941) recently found a single pentaploid *Triturus viridescens* whose body size was not different from that of the normal diploid individual of the same age, though the cell size was very much larger than the normal. This points to the conclusion that in newts there is some regulatory mechanism which comes into play in polyploid individuals and which reduces the cell number in the organs to offset the increase in cell size.

The cytology of the effect of abnormal temperatures in producing polyploidy can only be conjectured at this stage. It is clear that of the two structures of the cell in meiosis,—the chromosomes and the spindle,—temperature has its effect only on the spindle and not on the chromosomes, for the latter are seen to behave normally and to divide, but their separation into two distinct daughter nuclei is prevented. This is probably due to some disturbances in the

spindle mechanism brought about by change of temperature.

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CANCER RESEARCH IN INDIA

THE TATA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL which His Excellency Sir Roger Lumley, Governor of Bombay, opened on 30th April 1941, is one of the benefactions which India owes to the illustrious Tata family. This splendidly equipped institution dedicated to the treatment of Cancer will serve not only the purpose of a hospital, but also that of an advanced centre of research for the study of this malignant disease.

In a special supplement to the *Times of India*, dated 1st March 1941, Dr. V. R. Khanolkar, Director of the Cancer Research Laboratory, writes: "The establishment of a hospital devoted to cancer research in Bombay on the lines of the Memorial Hospital in New York, is a departure which takes into account the shortcomings of purely experimental institutions in other parts of the world. Just now when a large part of the world is involved in a life and death

struggle and the best energies of the human race are directed towards destructive activities, it is an important achievement to have started a humanitarian institution for the better care of people suffering from malignant diseases.

"The Tata Memorial Hospital is particularly fortunate, inasmuch as the Trustees have been farsighted enough to organise a place where besides study, treatment and laboratory research would be intimately co-ordinated and the clinician will be a research worker, and a laboratory investigator will have an opportunity of extending the experience gained from the laboratory to the hospital patient.

"The institution is unique in its conception inasmuch as most of the clinicians and the whole of the laboratory staff will be devoting their whole time to the work at the institution."