

Between the feet there is now on view the stele, or sculptured tablet of Tahutms IV, on which is recorded a dream that came to that monarch while taking a noonday nap in the Sphinx's shadow.

Archaeologists are somewhat disturbed by several cracks that have previously escaped notice in the rock from which the image is carved. These are being filled under governmental direction with a specially prepared cement. The explanation has been offered that they have been caused by seepage from water that has collected in a hole about three feet deep at the top of the head.

There are various legends about this hole. Some say it is merely a tomb shaft, while others have fruitlessly investigated it with the idea of finding an entrance to subterranean treasure chambers.

The French egyptologist, Hippolyte Boussac, has suggested that the hole was designed to hold the base of a gigantic headdress, such as the Egyptian god Osiris is usually depicted as wearing. It may either have been lost, he says, or never finished like some of the European cathedrals which are lacking a tower or two of the original design, several of them to this day.

TEMPERAMENTAL BACTERIA PROTECT MAN'S HEALTH

Why do some bacteria start to grow later than others when placed in a different but favorable environment? However much scientists argue over the reasons, this unaccounted for fact is of very great importance. For this property, which is called dormancy, plays an important part in the body's resistance to infectious disease.

It has been suggested variously by bacteriologists: that some temperamental bacteria individuals do not recover from the shock of being transferred to strange environment, even if it is auspicious enough for the common herd to grow in; that some have thicker walls than others; and that some cells suffer from what is technically known as "heat inhibition" when transplanted to a new medium for growth.

In a paper in the Journal of Infectious Diseases Victor Burke and two collaborators at the State College of Washington cover the situation by saying that dormancy is probably due to a combination of all these factors.

This temperamental behavior on the part of some bacteria, the paper continues, is of importance to man because it cuts down the chances of infection by reducing the number of organisms that would otherwise start growing in the body all at once. Since the bacterial cells begin to multiply at different times the body has an opportunity to initiate defensive reactions before the cells all develop. If enough of them remain dormant a sufficiently long time they will be excluded by the white corpuscles before serious development takes place.

Two-headed snakes, abnormal creatures like two-headed calves, are occasionally found.
