

Differences

(3)

- i) Gill slits is absent in annelids
- ii) Presence of pair nerve cords in annelids.
- iii) Schizocoelom origin of coelom in annelids
- iv) Two larva differ in following characters -
 - a) Absence of nephridia in tornaria
 - b) Absence of preoral coelom in trochophore
 - c) Blastopore becomes mouth in trochophore

Affinities with echinoderm:

The similarities between the two larval form are as follow yet adult show no marked relationship.

- i) There is evidence of micromeres at vegetal pole of blastula of *Balanoglossus* like in echinoids.
- ii) Blastopore marks the future posterior end.
- iii) Protocoel and hydrocoel lies on the left side
- iv) Identical course of ciliated band.
- v) Enterocoel origin of coelom

Differences:

- (1) Trochophore and apical plate with eye spots are absent in echinoderm larva.
- (2) Protocoel is paired in echinoderm larva and unpaired in tornaria

CONCLUSION:

To sum of the entire discussion it can be argued that the invertebrate feature outweigh the chordate features. *Balanoglossus* is decidedly near to echinoderm and if they are to be united with any other phylum it should be echinodermata of course, the best solution would be to treat Hemichordata as a separate independent phylum of invertebrates as Huxley (1959) has done.

