

Our 1952 Spring Meeting was a very interesting one, and, one that will long be remembered. Old friendships were renewed and new acquaintances are treasured. As in most cases the Spring Meeting was not a large one, but one of quality.

A fine delegation from Canada was present, but we missed the R.A.S. Montreal Centre group.

A comprehensive report of this meeting will be published, in a future issue of The JOURNAL of the R.A.S. Canada, by our Recorder, Mrs. Margaret Mayall. Such arrangements were made possible by the Editors, due to the discontinuation of POPULAR ASTRONOMY. We are grateful for this splendid service.

Our genial host, Prof. F.H. Reynolds, left nothing undone. Coffee and doughnuts were served at his residence Friday evening after the lecture by Prof. Record. Then followed conversation and exchange of ideas plus a visit to the Professor's private observatory. The genuine hospitality of Professor and Mrs. Reynold's will long be remembered.

Prof. Reynold's fine 10" Reflector resolved the polar caps of Mars as well as dark markings in the equatorial regions.

We were delighted to meet Karl Wells there, as the only Solar Division observer present.

One important phase of our work in connection with solar observations, is the observation of color in sunspots.

In a recent letter from Dr. Walter O. Roberts, High Altitude Observatory, Boulder, Colorado, we find the following....."I am quite convinced, because of a number of fairly detailed checks, that the penumbral colors do not show up in coincidence with large chromospheric flares. There must be some other phenomena involved. It is very tempting to interpret it as subjective, but fairly close coincidence of independantly observed cases seems to suggest that there may be something real to the phenomena. For this reason, I will naturally be very happy to get additional reports from you as you may observe new cases of color in sunspots."

The work, here mentioned, was performed mainly by Parmenter, Thrussell and Nelson.

Your Chairman requests that additional observers should participate in this project, more especially now, due to the present phase of the current cycle and, in addition, to prepare for the activity of the next maximum phase. It is believed that this work may evolve into a new phenomena, and your observations will help to establish a new fact. Send your observations direct, (Air Mail) to Dr. Roberts. Be sure to supply all details

There prevails some belief that the coming minimum will come sooner than predicted. We are, however, running quite true to form. True, the minimum has been predicted as a short one, but the predicted minimum remains at 1954-55.

The June spurt of activity runs mostly true to form, i.e., from past experience, and knowledge of sunspot cycles.

We are still waiting, and will wait, for new high-altitude groups with reversed-polarity changes, of the next Sunspot Cycle. Records show that sometimes these changes take place two years before minimum, but to date, none have been in evidence.

STATISTICS

The total number of observed Groups for the month of May was..... 8
Zurich's Provisional Sunspot Number for the month of May was22.9
The mean monthly Sunspot Area (U.S. Naval Observatory) was not received.
*The highest sunspot group number as assigned at Solar Division Headquarters was 59. It represented a small group in the South belt, near the central solar meridian.

* Group counting reference for observers.

Predictions of smoothed monthly Sunspot Numbers for the next six months:

June	34	Sept.	28
July	32	Oct.	26
Aug.	30	Nov.	24

Released by Prof. M. Waldmeier, Director, Federal Observatory, at Zurich, Switzerland, and transmitted by the Swiss Broadcasting Corp.

Final Relative Sunspot Numbers (Zurich) Jan. to June 1951.

Jan. 59.8; Feb. 59.9; Mar. 55.9; Apr. 92.9; May 108.5; June 100.6.

PUBLICATIONS

1. "Solar Flares and Associated 1.5 Meter Radiation"....Dodson-Hedeman-Owren
Astronomical Journal No. 1197, Apr. 1952 p.9
2. "Observation of Active Regions On the Sun by Radio-interferometer and Spectroheliograph"
Same issue. P. 10 Same author
3. "Origin of Aurora-borealis".....Dr. D.H. Menzel
Same issue P. 20
"Photometry of a Solar Flare"Gordon Newkirk
Same issue P. 21
4. "Sun Energy Changes"
Symposium on Climatic changes in Boston.
Chairman, Dr. Harlowe Shapley, participating, Dr. Barbara Bell, of Harvard Observatory, Dr. Donald H. Menzel and others.
Science News Letter May 24th 1952 P. 324
Use information. Good reading

NOTE TO OBSERVERS.

This is the time of the year that we go on our vacations. We hope that your planned vacations will be enjoyed to the fullest extent, and that upon your return you will come back fully refreshed, ready to resume your observations for another year.

It can be understood that we will miss some reports during the next two months. Those who are at home during this time can contribute much to our program by forwarding us as many observations as possible so that our Standards may be maintained. This co-operation will be greatly appreciated. If by chance you are in this vicinity, come and see us.