

Solar Bulletin

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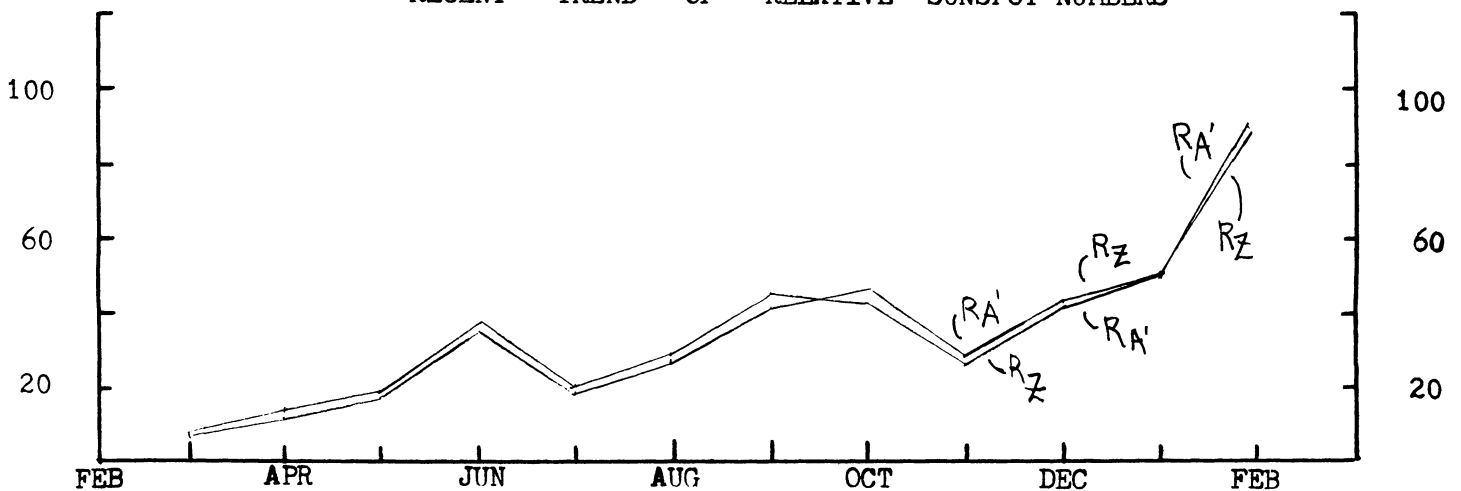
FEBRUARY 1978

SUNSPOT ACTIVITY FOR FEBRUARY

Sunspot activity rose to an unexpected high level during February. The Mean of the American sunspot numbers was 90.9 the highest monthly mean since November, 1970. This brings the twelve-month smooth mean for August 1976 up to 31.6 a little over three times the low point which was 11.1 in March of 1976. A steep upward trend in the smoothed means has continued steadily since November of 1976.

Solar flare activity also increased dramatically during February. Nine A.A.V.S.O. observers sent charts for analysis in which forty-eight separate ionospheric disturbances were found. Seven events occurred in a single day on the ninth, and again on the fifteenth. A chart recording of a very-low-frequency station, NWC, in Western Australia made by Bruce Ammons, A-31, at Missoula, Montana is reproduced on page-two. It shows five of the events on the ninth. This chart is a fine example of how an observing time coverage can be extended by recording a distant signal that is in daylight after sunset at the observing site.

RECENT TREND OF RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS



FOR FEBRUARY 1978

DAY	R _A	R _Z
1	111	128
2	114	120
3	124	131
4	122	138
5	126	137
6	128	129
7	112	121
8	84	89
9	93	94
10	108	96
11	129	95
12	119	92
13	100	93
14	82	82
15	68	59
16	56	64
17	53	56
18	54	55
19	53	53
20	61	52
21	64	63
22	81	74
23	88	69
24	91	78
25	93	94
26	77	86
27	75	79
28	78	88
M	90.9	89.8

Day	Max.	SEA	SES'	Def.	Observers
3	15:20		1+	5	A1,28,31
3	16:18		1+	5	A1,19,31,34,45
3	20:28		1	5	A31,34
7	17:21		1	5	A1,19,31,34
7	21:19		1	5	A1,28,30,31,34
8	20:05		1+	5	A1,30,31,34
9	14:51		1	5	A1,34
9	15:29	1	1	5	A1,19,34,45
9	16:06	1	1+	5	A1,19,31,34,45
9	18:38	1	1+	5	A1,19,31,34,45
9	21:10		1	5	A1,31,34
9	23:00		1+	5	A31
9	23:35		1	5	A31
10	00:28		2	5	A31
10	02:06		1	5	A31
10	02:23		1	5	A31
10	17:25	1	1+	5	A1,19,30,31,34,45
10	17:36		1	5	A1,19,31,34
10	21:18		2+	5	A30,31,34
11	14:28		1	5	A1
11	17:06		1-	4	A1,31,34,40
11	18:40		1-	4	A1,30,31,34
11	20:00		1	5	A1,30,31,34
11	00:16		3	5	A31
12	19:00		3	5	A1,31,34,45

Day	Max.	SEA	SES	Def.	Observers
13	17:30		1	5	A1,30,31,34
13	19:08		2	5	A1,19,30,31,34,45
13	21:41		1	5	A30,31
14	16:24		1	5	A31,34
14	23:32		1	5	A31
15	13:52		1	5	A1,19,28,45
15	18:44		1-	5	A1,19,30,31,34
15	19:02		1-	5	A31,34
15	20:17		1	5	A1,31
15	21:57		1	5	A30,31,34
15	22:38		1+	5	A30,31
15	23:39		1	5	A31
16	21:15		1	5	A19,31,34
17	01:50		2	5	A31
17	03:21		1+	5	A31
17	18:06		1-	4	A1,19,30,31,34,40
18	02:15		1-	5	A31
18	18:18		1	5	A1,31,37
18	22:08		1+	5	A1,30,31,34,37
21	15:23		1+	5	A1,19,34
22	18:39		1-	5	A30,31,34
25	03:18		1+	5	A31
25	14:54	1	1+	5	A1,19,28,31,34,37

