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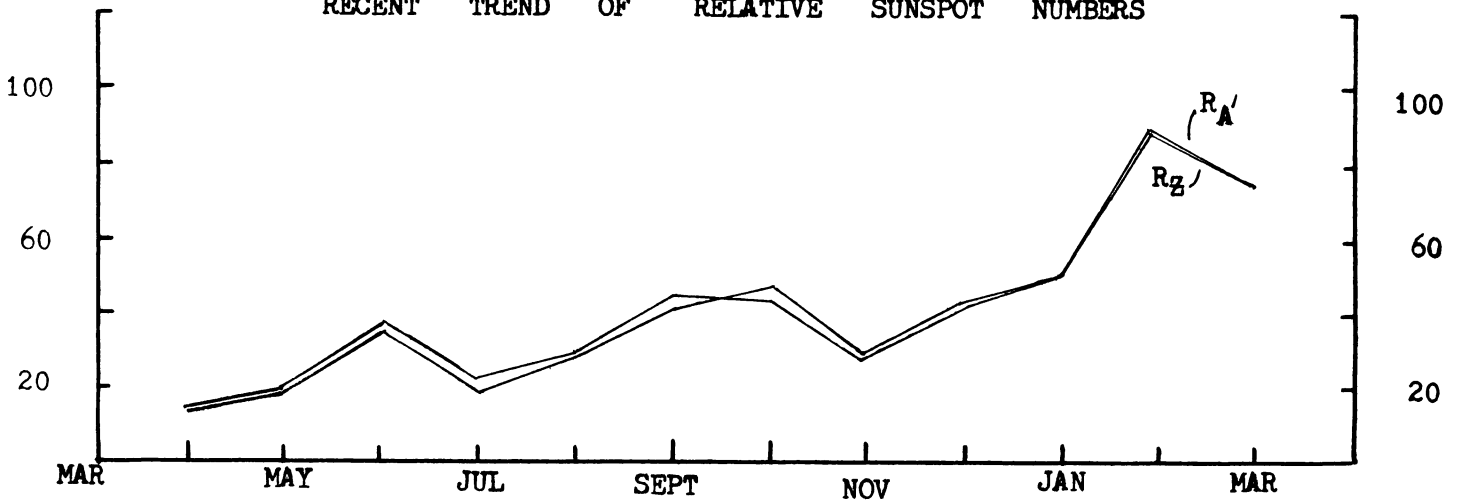
MARCH 1978

## SUNSPOT ACTIVITY FOR MARCH

The level of sunspot activity was somewhat lower during March than the high level of February. The monthly mean of the American Sunspot numbers fell from 90.9 to 73.9. These two high means bring the twelve-month smoothed mean for September 1977 up to 37.2 which enhances the already steep upward trend into the new cycle.

Nineteen ionospheric disturbances were recorded by eleven AAVSO observers who sent charts for analysis. This is down considerable from the record forty-eight events last month. Four charts are reproduced on page two, all of which show the effects of a solar flare at 1847 UT on the ninth of March. These four charts show the differential effects of location and frequency very well. The upper chart was made by new observer Carl Chernan of Tarentum, Pa., who has recently been assigned the designation A-45.

RECENT TREND OF RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS



AMERICAN (R<sub>A</sub>) AND ZURICH (R<sub>Z</sub>)

RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS FOR

MARCH 1978

DAY	R <sub>A</sub>	R <sub>Z</sub>
1	104	93
2	93	83
3	87	95
4	83	103
5	86	76
6	75	67
7	78	90
8	92	99
9	91	85
10	84	92
11	85	85
12	80	78
13	71	65
14	71	62
15	74	72
16	72	70
17	73	66
18	75	72
19	66	64
20	58	51
21	76	77
22	86	82
23	90	85
24	88	82
25	76	70
26	54	53
27	52	50
28	31	49
29	47	48
30	42	44
31	51	70
M	73.9	73.5

Day	Max.	SEA	SES	Def.	Observers	Day	Max.	SEA	SES	Def.	Observers
2	1836		1+	5	A1,19,31,34,37	5	2026		1-	5	A1,30,31,34,37
2	2217		1	5	A31,34,37	6	1831		1-	5	A1,31,34,37
2	2333		1	5	A31	7	2220		1	5	A30,31
3	1742		1	5	A1,30,31,34,37	9	1847		1+	5	A1,19,26,31,34,37,45
3	1857		1	5	A1,30,31,34,37	11	1918		1-	5	A1,19,26,34,37
3	1935		1+	5	A1,30,31,34,37	14	0351		1	5	A31,43
4	0100	1	2	5	A31,43	14	2152		2	4	A30
4	0250	1	1	5	A31,43	17	1552	1-	1-	5	A1,19,31,34,45
4	1551		1-	5	A1,19,28,30,31,34,37	24	2328		1-	5	A19,31,34
4	1758		1	4	A1,34,37						

Charts from the following observers were received and analyzed:

A-1,19,26,28,30,31,34,37,40,43,45

