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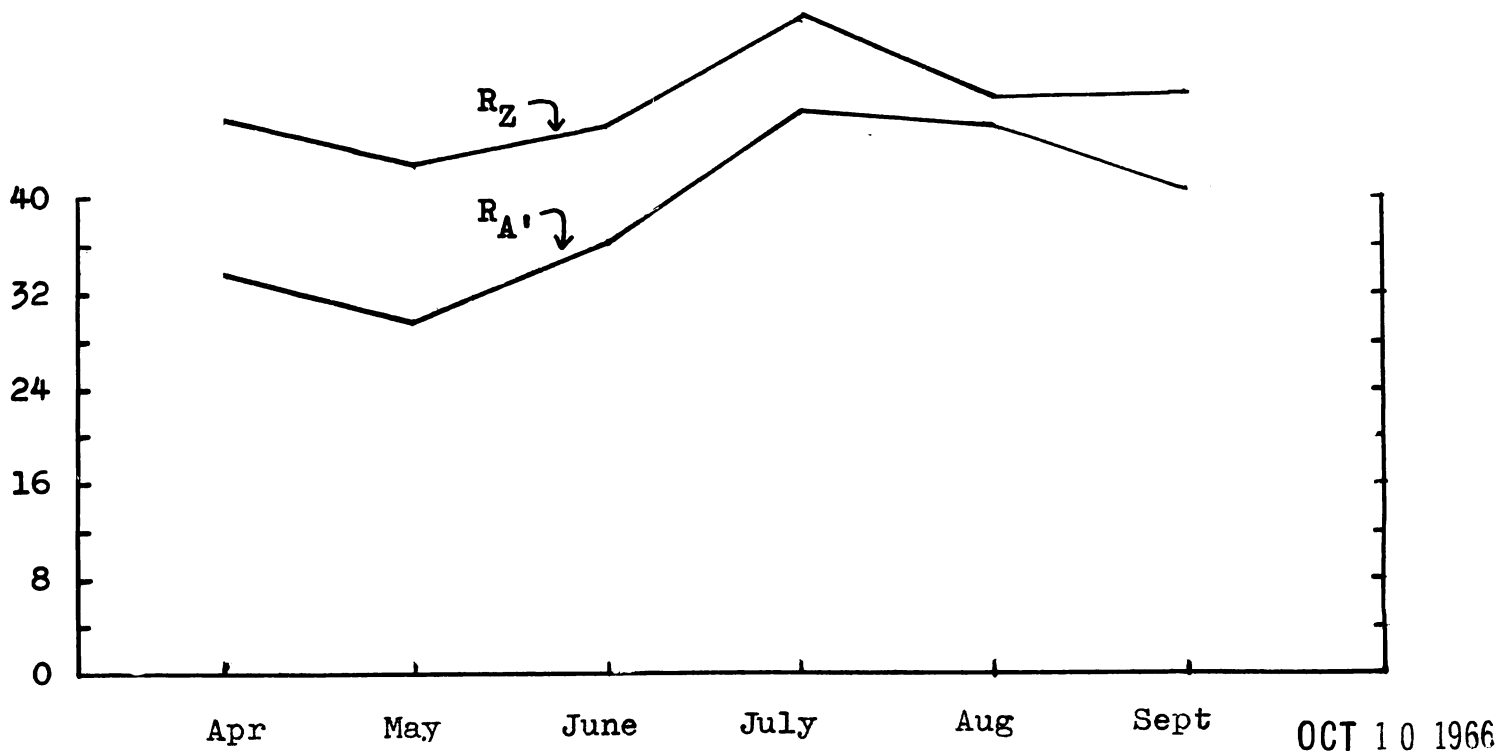
SOLAR ACTIVITY DURING SEPTEMBER

Most of the solar activity during September was associated with an active sunspot group first seen at the northeast limb on the 16th. This group was classified magnetically as beta-gamma by Mount Wilson Observatory and opposing magnetic polarities were observed enclosed in the same penumbra on the 17th. By the 23rd this group, the most active flare producer of September, was beginning to decay.

Sunspot activity was at a level similar to the previous month. The mean of the American sunspot numbers fell slightly from 46.1 to 40.9 in September. There were no spotless days although there had been two the previous month. There were 12 groups having lifetimes greater than two days compared to 17 such groups in August.

Several groups were difficult to identify in September. On the 8th, two groups formed in the southwest looking very much like a single group. By the 10th, it was more obvious that it was actually two bipolar groups quite close together. A widely spaced bipolar group formed in the southwest on the 30th which could easily have been mistaken for two groups.

RECENT TREND OF RELATIVE SUNSPOT NUMBERS



OCT 10 1966

(R_A) September 1966

mean = 40.9

1	30
2	28
3	18
4	16
5	15
6	20
7	27
8	36
9	36
10	48
11	41
12	32
13	28
14	31
15	37
16	47
17	61
18	58
19	67
20	63
21	77
22	63
23	64
24	57
25	65
26	39
27	26
28	26
29	35
30	36

(R_Z) September 1966

mean = 49.3

1	44
2	44
3	25
4	18
5	26
6	30
7	36
8	38
9	39
10	37
11	42
12	38
13	29
14	35
15	38
16	57
17	76
18	83
19	76
20	78
21	89
22	86
23	71
24	62
25	68
26	54
27	48
28	35
29	40
30	38

The American relative sunspot numbers (R_A) are computed from observations made by the Solar Division of the American Association of Variable Star Observers.

The Zurich provisional relative sunspot numbers (R_Z) are computed from observations made at the Federal Observatory in Zurich and its stations at Locarno and Arosa.