## Kodaíkanal Observatory.

#### BULLETIN No. LXXVIII.

# SUMMARY OF PROMINENCE OBSERVATIONS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR 1925.

In pursuance of the programme of work adopted since 1st January 1923 under the auspices of the International Astronomical Union, all observatories taking spectroheliograms of the Sun have been asked to co-operate with the Kodaikanal Observatory by supplying copies of their photographs on those days when the Kodaikanal records are imperfect or wanting. In response to our requirements for the first half of the year 1925, the Mount Wilson Observatory supplied prominence plates for 17 days and Ha disc plates for 7 days; Meudon Observatory supplied K<sub>s</sub> disc plates for 29 days and Ha disc plates for 15 days and Yerkes Observatory sent prominence plates for 6 days.

When incomplete or imperfect photographs for the same day are available from more than one observatory, the best photograph is chosen as representing the solar activity of that day after weighting it according to its quality, and the remaining photographs are ignored.

The mean daily areas and numbers of prominences during the half-year are given below. The means are corrected for incomplete or imperfect observations, the total of 181 days when plates were available being reduced to 163 effective days.

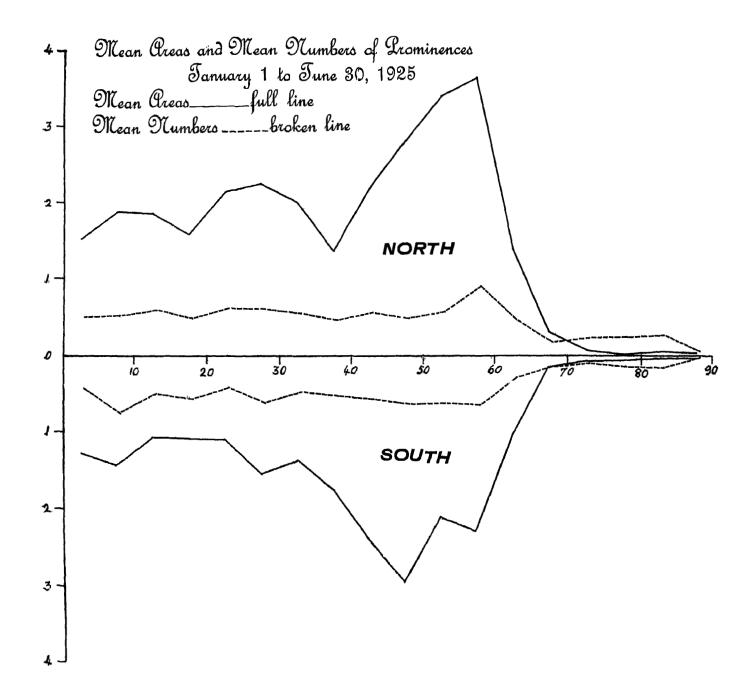
						(square minutes).	mean dany numbers.
North	•••	 	•••			 2.86	8.54
South		 •••		•••	•••	 2.17	7.59
						***************************************	-
					Total	 5.03	16.13
						and the same of th	

Compared with the second half of the year 1924, areas show a slight decrease in the northern hemisphere and a slight increase in the southern. In the case of numbers, there is an increase amounting to 11 per cent in the northern hemisphere and 19 per cent in the southern. The activity continued to be more pronounced in the northern hemisphere.

For comparison with bulletins issued prior to the co-operation of other observatories, the means based on Kodaikanal photographs alone are also given. 171 days of observation being counted as  $149\frac{1}{2}$  effective days.

					an daily areas uare minutes).	Mean daily numbers.
North (Koda	ikanal photograph	s only)	•••	•••	2.98	8.90
South	do.	•••	•••	•••	2.26	7.92
			Total	•••	5.24	16.82

The distribution of the prominences in latitude is represented in the following diagram, in which the full line gives the mean daily areas and the broken line the mean daily numbers for each zone of 5° of latitude. The ordinates represent tenths of a square minute of arc for the full line and numbers for the broken line. Compared with the second half of 1924, there has been an increase of activity in equatorial regions, between 30° and 40° and between 60° and 70°, but there has been a decrease between 40° and 50° more marked in the northern than in the southern hemisphere.



The monthly, quarterly and half-yearly areas and numbers, and the mean height and mean extent of the prominences on photographs from all the co-operating observatories are given in Table I. The unit of area is

1 square minute of arc. The mean height is derived by adding together the greatest heights reached by individual prominences and dividing by the total number of prominences observed; the mean extent is derived by adding together the lengths of the base on the chromosphere of individual prominences and dividing by the total number of prominences.

Table I.—Abstract for the first half of 1925.

Months.	Number of days	Areas.	Numbers.	Daily	Means.	Mean	Mean extent.
	of days (effective).		Traditions.	Areas.	Numbers.	height.	
1925						"	2
January	283	138.6	449	4.8	15.6	36.0	3.85
February	28	147.2	459	5.3	16.4	37.6	4.03
$\mathbf{M}$ arch	283	127.4	455	4.4	15.8	33.8	3.91
f April	271	128•4	475	4.7	17.4	34.0	3.74
May	271	147.3	435	5.4	16.0	35.3	4.51
June	23	130.0	353	5.7	15.3	37:7	4.89
First quarter	851	413:2	1363	4.8	15.9	35.8	3.99
Second quarter	771	405;7	1263	5.2	16.3	35*5	4.33
First half-year	163	818.9	2626	5:0	16.1	35.6	4.11

#### Distribution east and west of the Sun's axis.

Both areas and numbers showed a slight excess in the eastern hemisphere as will be seen from the following table:—

1925 January to Ju	ine.	East.	West.	Percentage East.		
Total number observed  Total areas in square minutes		•••	1326 411•0	1300 407 <sup>,</sup> 9	50 5 50 2	

#### Metallic prominences.

Twenty-one metallic prominences were observed during the half-year, of which 16 were north of the equator. Their details are given below:—

TABLE II.—LIST OF METALLIC PROMINENCES OBSERVED AT KODAIKANAL, JANUARY TO JUNE 1925.

		Ho			Latit	ade.			
Date.		1.8	i.T.	Base.	North.	South.	Limb.	Height.	Lines.
1925		п.	м.	٠	,	٥		"	
January	u	9	18	2	28.5		E	10	b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>8</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> .
	25	8	58		24		w	15	b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316·8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> .
February	7	9	2	4	81		E	210	4922.0, 4924.1, 5016, 5018.6, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5276.2, 5284.2
	7	9	20	8		18	Œ	25	5316'8, 5535'1, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> , 6677, 7065. b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316'8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> , 6677, 7065.
	10	9	20	2	35.2		Œ	20	5016, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 53168, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> .
	23	Ð	2	2	31	<u> </u>	w	20	49241, 50186, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 53168, 53630, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> .
	24	9	17	3	1	24	w	30	4924·1, 5018·6, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316·8, 5363·0, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>20</sub>
	24	9	11	1		10-5	W	<b>1</b> 0	b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316 8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> .
	24	9	3	2	31		w	15	49241, 15016, 50186, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 53168, 53630, D <sub>1</sub> , D
March	21	8	30	2		31.5	w	80	L <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5816.8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2.</sub>
	23	8	58		1	35.5	W	60	4924·1, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316·8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> , 6677.
	27	<b>(</b> )	4	R	26		w	30	49241, 5016, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316·8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> , 6677, 7065
April	3	Ð	16	) 	19		w	10	4924·1, 5018·6, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5816·8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> , 6677, 7065.
	6	8	45	5	33.5		E	10	4924 1, 5016, 5018 6, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316 8, 5863 0, D <sub>1</sub> , D
	6	H	45	3	27.5		E	25	6677, 7065. 5016, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316 8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> , 6677, 7065.
	9	8	58		28		E	15	4924·1, 5018·6, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316·8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> .
	10	9	15	5	22.5		E	65	4924·1, 5016, 5018·6, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316·8, 5363·0, D <sub>1</sub> , D
	18	8	55	4	19		E	15	6677, 7065. 49241, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5816-8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> , 6677, 7005.
May	25	9	20		24		w	60	49241, 5016, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5316·8, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> .
June	4	10	85		25		E	. 20	4924·1, b <sub>1</sub> , b <sub>2</sub> , b <sub>3</sub> , b <sub>4</sub> , 5816·8, 5863·0, D <sub>1</sub> , D <sub>2</sub> , 7065.
	5	9	15		18		w	40	$D_1, D_2$

The activity of prominences showing metallic lines was again confined to the higher latitudes as will be seen from their distribution given below :—

hitelyworkswell very hitelyfile of Pag	N locality and man b = 1 max lp = 1				11°—20°	21° 80°	21°-80°   31°40°		Extreme latitudes.	THE SPECIAL PROPERTY OF
	North	•••	,,,	,,,	3	8	5	26°'2	18° and 35°5	
	South	**	•••	•••	2	1	2	23°'9	10°5 and 35°	
						)		-		

Ten metallic prominences were on the east limb and 11 on the west.

### Displacements of the hydrogen lines.

Particulars of the displacements observed in the chromosphere and prominences are given in the following table:—

TABLE III.—DISPLACEMENTS OF HYDROGEN LINES.

	Hour	Latit		Limb.	]	Displ <b>a</b> cemen	it.	Remarks.
Date.	Hour I.S.T.	North.	South.	, 1	Red.	Violet.	Both ways.	Remarks.
1925	н. ч.		c		А,	Α.	Α,	
January 1 2 2 3 4 5 6 10 15 15 15 16 17 18 18 19 20 20 20 20 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22	11 8 8 8 9 9 8 8 8 8 9 9 9 11 8 9 9 2 2 4 8 8 8 8 8 8 9 9 8 8 8 8 9 9 11 8 9 9 2 2 4 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 9 9 8 8 8 8 8 9 9 8 8 8 8 8 9 9 8	27 55 3 43 58 51 71.5 84.5 23 75.5 61.5 53.7 74 48.5 21 39 76 83 24 64.5 26 23 60.5 75 41 79 62.5	10 26 58 10 29 20 20 34 56.5 62 16 83.5	EEWEWEEWEEWEWWEWWEWWEEWWEWEEWEEWW EW	Slight  1  1  1  Slight  3 0.5  Slight  4 0.5 1 0.5  Slight  Do. 0.5  1  Slight  Do. 0.5  Slight  0.5  Slight  0.5  Slight  0.5	1 0.5 Slight 1 0.5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		At top. Do. At base. Do. At base. At top. To red at base; to violet at top At base.  At top. At top. At base.  At top. At base.  At top. At top. Do.  At top. Do.  At top. At top. Do.
February 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 5 5 5 5	8 46 9 14 9 17 9 6 9 2 8 57 8 55 9 24 8 53 9 31	12 79 25 32 66 57.5 46.5 23	21 79 20	E W W W E E E	0.5 0.5 1 0.5 0.5 0.5	Slight Slight Do.		At base.

TD /	Ĥour	Lati	tude.	Limb.	<u></u>	Displacemen	ıt.	Remarks.
Date.	Ĥour I.S.T.	North.	South.	i	Red.	Violet.	Both ways.	Louingras.
1925	н. м.	c	٥		Λ.	<b>A.</b>	Α.	
'ebruary 6 6 6 6 6 6	8 48 9 8 9 14 9 14 9 20 9 23	64 30 20 15	21 36	EEEEEW	Slight  1 1.5 1 1 1	0.5		At base.
6 7 7 7	9 23 8 58 9 2 9 20 8 45 8 89 8 36	43.5 31 73.5 61	18 20	E E W	<b>3</b> 1	2 Slight Do.		At top.
8888888	8 34 8 34 9 22 9 3 8 51 11 0	35 30 17 28 14	16	E E E W W E	1	1 0.5 Slight		At base. At top. At base.
10 10 10 12	9 20 9 20 9 25 9 58 10 38	86 88 74:5 84	111	EEEEEW	Slight 3 2 05 Slight	1 0.5		At top.
12 12 12 13 13 13	9 12 9 15 8 54 9 10	11 52·5 46 84 68	55	W W W	1 0'5 1	Slight Do,		At top. Do.
15 15 16 16 16 16	8 53 9 1 9 12 9 17 9 22 9 4	62 41 42:5	14 80 61	X E E E W	1 Slight	0.5 0.5 Slight		At top.
16 17 17 18 18	8 55 8 58 9 18 9 4 9 29 9 12	75.5 81.5 20 81.5	59	E E W	0°5 1	Slight  1 1 Slight		At top.  At top.  Do.  Do.
19 19 20 20	8 41 8 38 8 44	26 58 28 18-5	32-5	<b>K</b> abababa:	1 Or5 Slight	Slight 0.0		Do.
18 19 19 20 21 21 22 22 22 23 24 24 24 24 24 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28	9 17 8 42 8 47 9 20 9 8 9 8 55 8 48 8 58	22 14 81.5 76 74.5	41.5	W	Do. 1 Slight 05 05 Slight	Slight		At top. Do.
23 23 24 24 24 24	9 8 9 3 8 55 8 48 8 58 8 48 8 50 9 17 9 17	29 64 75.5 74.5	25·5 25·5	**************************************	1 0.5 3 1 Slight	Slight Do.		At base. At top.
27 27 27 28 28 28 28	10 13 8 42 9 11 8 34 8 42 8 39 8 38	62 34·5 18· 54 87·5 58 77·5		***************************************	Do.	0.5 Slight Slight Do.	Slight	At top.

*5. 1		Hour	Lati	tude.		]	Displacemen	t.	
Date.		1.S.T.	North.	South,	Limb	Red.	Violet.	Both ways	Remarks,
1925		11. M.	o	'n		١-	Α,	۸.	
Varch	188845566678889999001167912222222222222222222222222222222222	5046357553845411053274095050555883323120550486222086282894235544552 8898988899999988888899808888998888999888899998999888888	42 61 280 75 38.5 67.5 47 48.5 58.5 42 69.28 47.5 76.6 20.5 60.8 20.7 49.2 49.2 49.2 49.2 49.2 49.2 49.2 49.2	33°5  73°5  51°5  51°5  15  78  83  82  36  83  71°5  31°5	EEEWEEEEWWEWWEEEWEEEEEWWWEEWWEWWEWWEWWE	1	1 1 0.5 1 Slight Slight Do. 0.5 0.5 2 Slight 0.5 Slight 0.5 Slight 0.5 Slight Do. 0.5 0.5  1 Slight Do. 0.5 0.5 0.5	Slight	At base. At top.  At top. At top. At top. At top. At top. At top. At top. At top. At base.
April	11222228388444	10 7 10 7 8 52 8 50 8 46 9 2 9 7 9 5 9 36 9 10 8 30 8 53 8 58	70 56 39:5 68 58:5 16 51:5 63	48 5 50 5 33 15 50 5	E E E W E E W E E E	1 1 0.5 0.5 0.5 Slight	Slight  0:5 Slight  Slight Do.		At top. At base. At base.

_	ļ	Hour	Latit		!	I	isplacement	t	72 1
Date.		Hour I.S.T.	North.	1	Limb.	Red.	Violet.	Both ways.	Remarks,
1925		н. э.	•	9		λ.	Α.	<b>A.</b>	
	+ 4 + 5 5 6 6 6 6 7 7 7 7 7 8 8 9 9 9 10 10 11 12 12 12 12 15 15 16 16 16 17 17 18 18 18 20 20 20 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	8405955402224+7595244285550443851122199505883240565568155122479824445582445 8889988999999999999999999999999888998899887999	69.5 83 42 15	I	WEEWWWWEEWEEEEEE	Slight  1.5  2.0.5 1 1.0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 1 1.0.5 0.5 1 Slight 0.5 2 0.5 1 0.5 4	Slight  Ob Slight  2 0-5 1  0-5 2  Islight  1  1  1  1  1  1  1  1  1  1  1  1  1	Slight	At top.  At base. Do. At top. At top. At top. At top. Do. At base. At top. To red at base; to violet at top. Do.  At top. At top. At top. At top. At base.  At top. At base.  At top. At base.  At top. At base.  At top. At base.
May	31) 1	9 7 9 <b>4</b> 5	1		W TE		Slight		At base.
aunj	1 1	9 45 9 44 9 49	: ₹66.6		E W		Do. 1 Slight		

		Ho	<b>11</b> 11	Lati	tude.		:	Displacemen	.t.	
Date.		ī.s	ur .T.	North.	South.	Limb.	Red.	Violet.	Both ways.	Remarks.
1925 May	2444457	11. 8 9 9 9	м. 52 40 42 38 36 13	12 24	25 85·5 8	W E E W	Slight 1	A. Slight	A.	At base.
	7 8 9 11 12 12 12 12 18 18 19 19 19 20 21 1	99988899888888888999999999999999999999	9 20 48 44 46 58 51 55 50 50 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	86 85 5 75 5 22 79 5 58 24 19 60 85 5 19 84 5 60 46 14 47 72	8 24 38 81 5 11 68 22	EEEXEEEEXXEEEEXEEEEXXXXX	Slight Do. 1 0.5 Slight 0.5 Slight 0.5 Slight Do. 0.5 0.5 1 1 0.5 0.5 1 1 1 0.5 0.5 1 1 1 0.5 0.5 1 1 1 1 1 0.5 0.5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Slight  1 Slight Slight 1:5 Slight		At base. Do. At top.  At base.  At base.  At base.  At base.  Do. At base. Do.
	21 22 22 22 24 24 24 25 26 27 28 29 29 29 30 30	9 9 9 8 8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	35 29 22 26	28 24 28 49 22 28 28 270	22 26	W W W W E W W W	0.5 1 Slight 2 0.5 0.5 1 1.5 Slight	1 Slight		At top. To red at top; to violet at base. At base. At top. Do.
June	1334455568888999990111112	1	15 58 40 35 20 51 50 15 80 15 12 20 35 48 49 96 66 57 46	5 57 73 25 81 72 80 61.5 89 83 32 24 35 62 10 59 84	21 18 2 62 57	W E W E W W E W W E E W W E E W E W	1 Slight 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	0.5 Slight 1 Slight 1.5		At top.  To red at top; to violet at base.  At base.  To red at top; to violet at base.  At base; 3 A at 9h 20m.  At top.  Do.  At base.

	Date.		our	Lati	tude.	<b>.</b> . ,		Displacemen	t.	Describ
Da	te.	I.S	.T.	North.	South	Limb.	Red.	Violet.	Both ways.	Remarks.
June	12 12 13 14 15 16 19 21	9 9 8 8 9 9 9	м. 20 16 30 47 25 50 36 50 2	38 18.5 58	14 40 33 25	EW E W W E W W	0.5 Slight	0.5 2 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 Slight 0.5	A.	At top.  To red at top; to violet at base.  At base.
	21 21 21	9	58 56	37 88		WW	1	Slight		

There was a large increase in the number of displacements, the total number observed being 344 as against 141 in the previous half-year. They were distributed as follows:—

Latitude. 1°—30° 31°—60° 61°—90°	30° 83 60° 78				South. 44 29 24			
	Total		247		97			
East limb	•••	•••	•••	•••		•••	•••	195
West_limb	•••	•••	•••		•••	•••		149
						Total	•••	344

One hundred and eighty-three displacements were towards the red, 156 towards the violet and 5 both ways simultaneously.

### Reversals and displacements on the disc.

One hundred and sixty-four bright reversals of the H $\alpha$  line, 73 dark reversals of the D<sub>s</sub> line and 45 displacements of the H $\alpha$  line were observed on the disc during the half-year. Their distribution is shown below:—

				North.	South.	East.	West.
Bright reversals of $Ha$	•••	•••		117	47	71	93
Dark reversals of $D_8$	•••	•••	•••	54	19	27	<b>4</b> 6
Displacements of Ha		•••	•••	32	13	24	21

Thirty-eight displacements were towards the red, six towards the violet and one both ways simultaneously.

#### Prominences projected on the disc as absorption markings.

Photographs of the Sun's disc in H $\alpha$  light were available from Kodaikanal and the co-operating observatories for a total of 175 days, which were counted as 171 effective days. The mean daily areas of H $\alpha$ 

absorption markings (corrected for foreshortening) in millionths of the Sun's visible hemisphere and the mean daily numbers are given below :—

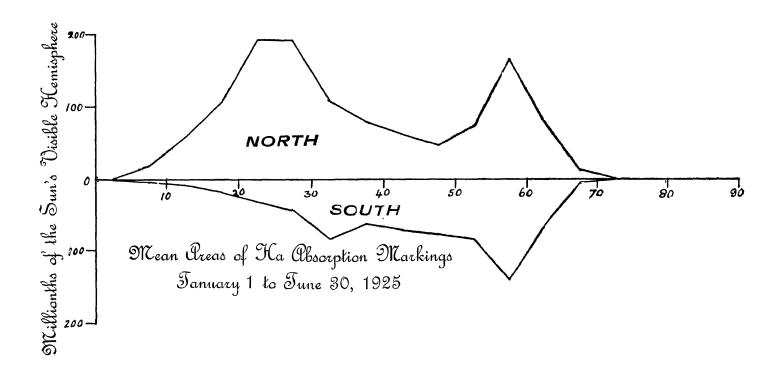
						Mean daily areas.	Mean daily numbers.
North	• • •		 •••	•••		1203	9.4
South	•••	•••	 •••			703	5.2
						<del> </del>	
				Total	•••	1906	14.9

Both areas and numbers have decreased compared with the previous half-year. As in the case of prominences at the limb, the activity continued to be more pronounced in the northern hemisphere.

For comparison with bulletins issued prior to the co-operation of other observatories, the means based on Kodaikanal photographs alone are also given, 164 days of observation being counted as 158 effective days.

			Mean daily areas.	Mean daily numbers.
North (Kodaikanal photographs only)	•••		1182	9.4
South do.	•••	•••	712	5.2
				ewinder-record
	Total		1894	14.9

The distribution of the mean daily areas in latitude is shown in the following diagram and is strikingly different from that of prominences at the limb. In the northern hemisphere the zone of greatest activity is at  $20^{\circ}-30^{\circ}$  with a secondary maximum at  $55^{\circ}-60^{\circ}$ , whilst in the southern hemisphere, the maximum is at  $55^{\circ}-60^{\circ}$  with only slight activity in the other regions.



As in the case of prominences at the limb, there is an excess of activity in the eastern hemisphere the percentage east being 53.94 for areas and 50.37 for numbers.

Thanks are due to the co-operating observatories for the photographs supplied by them.

The Observatory, Kodaikanal, 19th February 1026.

T. ROYDS,

Director, Kodaikanal and Madras Observatories.