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# GRAVITY THEORY WRONG, BELIEF OF CLEVELANDER

## Brush, After Years of Work, Ready to Startle Scientific World

By DAVID DIETZ

Seventy-eight years old, the first pioneer in the electrical industry, a millionaire decades ago, showered with honors from the scientific world, Charles F. Brush inventor of the arc lamp and the storage battery, and developer of the first commercially practical dynamo, does not rest upon his laurels.

Despite his age, he spends half of each day in his office in The Arcade (he has been president of the Cleveland Arcade Co. since 1887), and the rest of his time in a scientific laboratory in his home, 3725 Euclid avenue, built when that section of the avenue was known throughout the world as "millionaire's row."

From the laboratory he crosses scientific swords with the greatest physicists in the world, and threatens the very discoveries of Galileo. He has reopened the entire question of the nature of ether.

### Old But Yet Young

Only the touches of white in his mustache and his hair bear testimony to the fact that he is 78.

A tall, powerfully-built man, he still walks with the erect shoulders of youth. And his mind is still young enough and stanch enough to carry him into not only one intellectual battle but three, any one of which would daunt most men just started fairly on a scientific career.

His Brush Electric Co., founded in Cleveland in 1880, was the pioneer company in the entire electrical industry.

His company was one of four which formed the nucleus of the General Electric Co., today the

world's largest electrical corporation. The other three were the Thompson-Houston, the Wood and the Edison companies.

But to start such an industry was not enough for Brush.

### Hit Foundation of Physics

The experiments which he is now carrying on concern the fundamental concepts of the very science of physics.

One of the general beliefs, accepted by the scientific world since the days of Galileo, is that all bodies fall toward the earth with exactly the same rate whether they are light or heavy.

By a series of elaborate experiments carried out over the last 10 years, Brush believes that he has accumulated evidence that such is not the case.

Brush believes that his experiments when completed will upset the Einstein theory which assumes that the general belief in the uniform action of gravity is correct.

"I am not working to disprove Einstein," Brush told this writer. "I am only seeking for facts. But if my facts show Einstein to be wrong, there is nothing to do but to say so."

### May Alter Ether Theory

Another set of experiments which Brush is carrying on concern the behavior of rocks.

Brush finds that under certain circumstances a variety of different rocks generate small amounts of heat spontaneously.

He believes that this is due to the absorption of energy from the ether of space.

"This will necessitate modification of the current theories concerning the nature of ether," Brush says.

Realizing the importance of this experiment, Brush has financed a repetition of the experiment at the U. S. Bureau of Standards in Washington in order that the findings of other scientists might also be obtained upon the question.

Brush was born in Euclid township, March 17, 1849. He attended Cleveland public schools and the old Central High School. Then he went to the University of Michigan where he was graduated as a mining engineer.

The Brush Electric Co. was organized in 1880. It stood on the south side of the Public square. Its site now forms part of the site of

the new Union Depot.

### Amusing Incidents

"Incidents in those early days were amusing," Brush tells.

"Many people would stare directly at my arc lamp for a minute or two. Then they would complain that their eyes hurt and that therefore the arc lamp was no good.

"I would say to them, 'Well, your eyes will hurt if you stare directly at the sun. But no one complains therefore that the sun is useless.'"

He holds the Rumford medal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Edison medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

He is a chevalier of the Legion of Honor of France.

He has been active in Cleveland affairs and has served as president of the Chamber of Commerce. He is a trustee of Western Reserve University, Case School of Applied Science, the Cleveland School of Art and University School.