

Gravity Day 1960

Written by Wilbert Smith
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Gravity Day was held Saturday, August 27th, at New Boston, New Hampshire, sponsored by the gravity research Foundation, and organized by Mr. Rover W. Babson. The morning session consisted of three technical papers, the first of which was the prize-winning essay "Gravity and the Nature of Fundamental particles". The second was "Can there be a Shield for Gravitation?", and the third, "The Possibility of Producing Changes in the Gravitational Mass of Certain Substances."

The following summary is taken from the paper "Gravity and the Nature of Producing Changes in the Gravitational Mass of Certain Substances."

"Up until the present time it has not been possible to establish a relationship between the macroscopic gravitation theory and the properties of the fundamental particles. Ultimately, however, if one is to attain a thorough understanding of gravitation it must be through a correct theory of structure of the fundamental particles. For that reason the present essay is devoted to an analysis of this point.

Since the macroscopic gravitational theory is based on non-Euclidean geometries, one may hope to acquire an understanding of fundamental particles by a similar approach. In this essay the WEYL THEORY OF GAUGE INVARIANCE is applied to obtaining a geometrical theory of electrons and protons, and it is shown that their structure can be understood in terms of localized non-Euclidean geometrics."

This paper is right on the party line of orthodox science and is magnificent mathematical manipulation. Reprints may be obtained from the Gravity Research Foundation, New Boston, N.H.

The paper by Dr. W. G. Swann, "Can there be a Shield for Gravitation?" was predicated upon an assumed inequality between the forces of attraction between large particles and small particles. If such an inequality exists, gravitation could be explained as an electrostatic attraction. Furthermore, since we know that "antimatter" does exist, and assuming identical

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properties but opposite charges for this anti-matter, it should be possible to build a gravitational shield using concentric shields of matter and anti-matter. There is one small problem, however, anti-matter coming in contact with matter produces an explosion much more energetic than that of a hydrogen bomb, during the course of which both implicated matters are entirely annihilated!

The paper on "The Possibility of Producing Changes in the gravitational Mass of Certain Substances" by Joel E. Fisher, was an excellent report of a series of experiments which he had conducted. It was reported that Bismuth, and also several other substances, appeared to gain or lose weight according to their magnetic history. The reported changes of weights were small but quite in the range of the analytical balance, which was used to weigh the samples. Mr. Fisher also reported that he felt that the earlier report of gravitational changes due to magnetic fields was due to vibration affecting the gravimeter.

A delicious luncheon was served to those attending the Conference through the compliments of Mr. Babson, and advantage was taken to meet and talk with several people having interests in common. The day started out quite cool, but by mid-afternoon it was quite warm, making the event a very pleasant experience.

Dr. H. Dwight Carle, presented a paper showing how the birds, the trees etc. responded to gravity, and arranged their physical structure to take this force into account.

Professor Charles J. Lyon demonstrated the effect of allowing plants to grow under conditions where the gravitational stimulus was equalized. He had arranged a number of plants in pots placed horizontally on turntables so that they would rotate about a horizontal axis about once per minute. Under these conditions the plant stems curved around towards the pot rather than standing normally. The leaves also tended to come straight out from the plant instead of at the usual angle. Also, the leaf orientation was random, instead of the orderly arrangement to which they are accustomed. In general, the conclusion was reached that in the absence of a definite direction of gravity, the plants developed into more or less of a tangle. A further experiment was made with seeds impaled on wires free to vibrate while being rotated showed that the sprouts were quite sensitive to a unidirectional force since they had responded to about 1/100 g centrifugal force.

It was noteworthy the omission of any papers, even speculative, on the possibility of gravity control, or a recognition that such control might be possible. It seemed that the entire thinking was dominated by the philosophy of modern science, with a great inertia to deviate from the

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well-trodden path of orthodoxy.