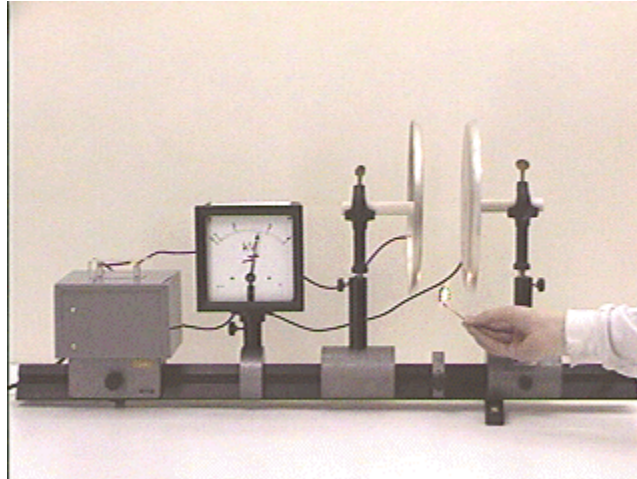


Question #183

Shown in the photograph below is a charged parallel plate capacitor. Gwen is about to hold a match up so that its flame will be located between the capacitor plates just below the plates, as seen.



What might happen to the voltage across the plates when the match is brought near to the plates as shown?

When the match is brought near the plates, the voltage on the capacitor will:

- (a) increase, due to the additional charge of the burning match.
- (b) decrease, due to the ions being drawn to the oppositely charged plates.
- (c) nothing: flame is not attracted by charge.

Click here for [Answer #183](#) after April 12, 2004.

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For questions and comments regarding the *Question of the Week* contact [Dr. Richard E. Berg](#) by e-mail or using phone number or regular mail address given on the [Lecture-Demonstration Home Page](#).