

81. We do not employ energy conservation since, in reaching equilibrium, some energy is dissipated either as heat or radio waves. Charge is conserved; therefore, if  $Q = C_1 V_{\text{bat}} = 24 \mu\text{C}$ , and  $q_1$  and  $q_3$  are the charges on  $C_1$  and  $C_3$  after the switch is thrown to the right (and equilibrium is reached), then

$$Q = q_1 + q_3 \quad .$$

We reduce the series pair  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  to  $C' = 4/3 \mu\text{F}$  which has charge  $q' = q_3$  and the same voltage that we find across  $C_1$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} V_1 &= V' \\ \frac{q_1}{C_1} &= \frac{q_3}{C'} \end{aligned}$$

which leads to  $q_1 = 1.5q_3$ . Hence,

$$Q = (1.5q_3) + q_3$$

leads to  $q_3 = 9.6 \mu\text{C}$ .