

vacation of the weekly meetings, the interest could be maintained and the beneficial effects of mutual improvement be made more continuous and widespread by continuing these conjoint sessions throughout the summer.

It is also quite possible that the prolonged vacation of the associations could be broken to the general advantage in the summer months, if a systematic effort were made to continue bi-weekly meetings at least; and it might be that weekly meetings could be reached in time. A potent cause of suspension, even with reduced attendance, is the inability of officers who are active in various branches of employment, to keep up to the work. By a systematic arrangement between the various city associations, and in them, a portion of the officers could be detailed to perform a section of the labor, and its arrangement could be so varied to suit the season, that a semi-monthly meeting of this order would be worth while aiming at, where summer recreations and associations of suitable character could be enjoyed.

The attainment of success in this would require methodical operations, directed in the Stake central authority. The effort of individual associations, even as a result of more general urgings, is not equal to it. Individuality has its field, but in the institution of a work of that kind among the associations, there is required the systematic procedure and direction as to detail, of the combined force that centers in an authority which reaches to and unites the energies of all.

THE AIR DISAPPEARING.

At different times scientists have attempted to forecast the final fate of the earth and the cause, or causes, that will eventually render it unsuitable as a habitation for human beings, constituted as the race of mankind now is. It has been suggested that the solar system by gradually losing its heat will at last render life on the various planets an impossibility. Others have predicted the end of the world in a blaze, through collision with some other orb in space. The latest suggestion is that we are gradually losing the atmosphere that surrounds the earth, and that life, consequently, at last will be extinguished by suffocation.

The last mentioned conclusion has been reached through a series of experiments conducted in France on means of balloons. The apparatus by means of which this is believed to have been demonstrated is attached to the balloon and is described as a circular object resembling the exterior of a gigantic fly wheel. It works automatically, and by means of a connection with the registering machine directly above it, opens one of a series of reservoirs it contains at certain periods of elevation. These reservoirs, when the aerostile leaves the earth, are full of air, and the air has been entirely exhausted from them before the ascent is begun. Therefore, when a reservoir is opened at a desired height, there is nothing to mix with the specimen of air that rushes into it.

Concerning the latest of the experi-

ments made, a Paris correspondent of an exchange says:

The aerostile rose with extraordinary rapidity to an immense height, fully 10,000 meters. The highest temperature recorded was 60 degrees. The balloon remained in the air two hours, traveling N. N. W. 4 E., and traveled a distance of 102 kilometers. All the recording apparatus worked successfully, and while the results have not been definitely announced in all particulars, they, in the minds of many scientists, establish the fact that the inventors have contended for—that the aerostile will throw startling light on the question of atmospheric disappearance.

The "Aerophile," as the balloon has been named, is sometimes sent aloft merely arranged so that at a certain period of time the gas vent will be partially opened, the gas escape, and the monster settle to the earth. At other times it is like the captive balloon, sent aloft at the end of a great coil of rope, and pulled down whenever the experimenters desire. It is, however, only when the invention is permitted to soar to great height that there is a possibility of securing the results which the scientists hope for.

The facts learned are believed to indicate that a change is gradually taking place in the atmospheric conditions of the earth. The air mingles continually with the water and the rocks, and this action diminishes its density. Thus is the gauzy envelope which surrounds us brought closer and reduced, and one day, say the scientists, will without doubt disappear completely as it has already done from our neighbor, the moon. As a matter of fact, following up the study of the actual conditions of the atmosphere the facts revealed suggest as to the effect of changing conditions on animal and vegetable life, the investigator is enabled to form an idea of the transformation which actual organisms undergo, and what the future of humanity is to be, so far as the world is concerned.

It is interesting to notice that scientific research lately has overthrown the position formerly taken by those who used to rely on science for arguments against revealed religion. The materialistic idea that everything in the universe was to remain as it now is and has been from the beginning finds no support. Everywhere are seen changes. The modern idea is that worlds and systems of worlds are brought into existence, live and die. This points to a power superior to the material forces that seemingly control the universe. It corroborates the testimony as to the purpose for which the world exists, the mission of the human family on earth and its eternal destiny.

NOT A SOURCE OF CHAGRIN.

If County Commissioner L. E. Hall is correctly reported in a morning contemporary, he delivered himself of the following sentiment when speaking of the gambling, prostitution, illicit liquor selling, etc., allowed to go on in this city:

It has always been a source of much chagrin to me that the Mormon people have been able to say, and with only too much truth, that since the city has been under Gentile domination these evils have so largely increased. They have

asserted that we countenance them, and how can we controvert such statements in the face of the late disclosures?

Why should it be a source of chagrin to the gentleman that the Mormon people are not bad—that they gave a purer and better administration in this city than it has known the past seven years, a part of which time the gentleman himself was in the administrative municipal body? Does he really mean to say that he has regrets that the Mormons are better than those who are directly responsible for the present condition? Yet that is the only conclusion to be drawn from his remark, when the manner in which the statement he refers to is made by the Mormons is considered. They never present the relative conditions referred to as an arraignment of Methodists, Presbyterians, or any of all religious organizations. But when sectarian advocates falsely accuse Mormons of all manner of evil, as compared with the body of non-Mormons, the fact which Mr. Hall admits is pointed out as a matter of defense, and of course it has a telling effect. But the Mormons never yet have urged, and do not now, that the recent regrettable state of affairs is a sample of what would exist if a local political organization composed of almost wholly of Episcopalians, Methodists, Catholics or Presbyterians were to elect the officers of the city.

The remark of Commissioner Hall does an injustice, perhaps unconsciously on his part, to the Mormons and to all other religious bodies here, in the inference that the latter are responsible, as religious organizations, for the existing condition. The fact is that the religious people here, of all denominations, deplore this condition; and such encouragement as has been given to vice by official leniency is abhorred by the Mormon people. As a good Christian; Mr. Hall ought to be gratified that when members of the city administration were selected from the membership of a body of Christian workers, there was a better condition of affairs; and we doubt not this is his real feeling when he views it from that broader standpoint which renders a comparison between Mormon and non-Mormon religious bodies as not exactly fitted to the condition complained of. It is true that non-Mormon, or Gentile, elements prevail and cause the trouble, but it is not such elements as compose the respectable portion of the non-Mormon population.

THE NEW YORK World says that newspaper enterprises in that city have sunk over twelve million dollars in trying to encompass the World's destruction. It does not appear to be a paying business in Gotham to try to build on another's ruins, unless it should be in the case of the World itself.

THE WISDOM of that prophetic animal which popular superstition persisted in bringing out of his hole some six weeks ago, and which, upon sight of his shadow, retreated again into the warmth and darkness of his winter's nest, cannot be too highly applauded. He would have had a fine time out of doors during the last two months!