

"3RD COM."

Editor of the Journal.

Sir,—It is true that sometimes useful words have entered our language through the medium of slang much as some great political and religious reforms have had to find their way among the larger low levels of society before they penetrated to the high hill strata.

Still, owing to the fact that the majority of people adopt their usages only when they come to them with the sanction of high good or great authority, such authority, in order to effect a general usage, could only proceed from say a permanent Board composed of the heads of, or suitable delegates from, the universities of Canada, or of Ontario, which Board could adjudicate upon all the great necessary and indispensable improvements that could be and should be made in our language, to make it a perfect and satisfactory and up-to-date vehicle of the expression of thought.

But while there are some very high weighty and more abstruse modes in which English should be bettered, it still remains true that the introduction of a common 3rd pers. pron. sing. (abbrev. "3rd com.") may be, and is of intense and especial moment, as you may in this sequel see. All the reasons why there should be any personal pronouns at all, are of full force in this matter of a "3rd Com," there being numbers of important words of a common gender.

Here following are some stated propositions in which the "3rd com." is simply indispensable, or in which the masc. pron. would be too utterly pointless and futile.

Holding, as the writer of this does, that it is a grave wrong to children

who are correctly trained in moral, social, physical and religious principles and rules, to put them among crowds who have not such cultivation, and that a daily culture, of this kind, of all the children, is the only safe barrier against irremediable, deplorable evils that are now coming, and will come, upon our country, let me here append some statements of principle which united or allied Churches could secure to be taught daily (by portions) in the schools, so that they would form an ineradicable part of all the children's developing life.

In these the com. 3rd pers. pron. "se," "hir," "hin" is used, and it should be borne in mind that if this pronoun were as well known as are now the masc. and fem. ones, it would answer perfectly its intended purpose. In these statements, for the word "child" could be substituted any of the words "pupil," "scholar," "student," "youth," "person," or any other fit word suitable.

Every child should be able and willing to see the right way in which se should act or think, and to do the right and avoid the wrong.

Every child should fend hir self or ife from any evil or badness or harm that comes against hin from any person or thing or thought; and se should be encouraged to do and get for hin everything useful, delightful, good, beautiful, that may rightly be done or got.

Every child should avoid eating those foods or doing anything whatever that would harm his health or strength or power of doing right, or power of keeping from wrong.

Every child should know that if se does right, se will at some time get