MRS. ELLA YOUNG INVENTS PRONOUN

"He'er, "His'er" and "Him'er" as Combination of Genders

Used in Address.

MACHES PRINCIPALS GASP.

Superintendent Explains Etymological Innovation; Listeners Enthusiastic.

A common personal pronoun for both sexes—that problem which for generations has worried professors of English into nervous prostration and has turned many a peaceful classroom into a battleground of strife—was invented in an instant by Ella Pigg Young yesterday morning and caused a round of school principals to gasp with astonishment.

Mrs. Young sprang her little surprise at a meeting of school principals. The preliminaries were over and the superintendent of schools rose to give the address that would make the chagrin on "A Simplified Course of Study."

Principal Made to Gasp.

"A principal should do conduct his'er school that all pupils are engaged in something that is profitable to him'er and where the pupil is required to use knowledge in school in accomplishing his'er task," began Mrs. Young.

All gasped in unison. Mrs. Young paused to survey the effect her words had made upon the group.

"Wh-what was that?" came the query from several parts of the room. "We don't quite understand what that was you said."

Mrs. Young smiled and continued: "I don't see how one can map out the work for the fifth or sixth grade when he'er has always done the work in the grades above or below."

"I don't see what can be astonishing you unless it is my use or misuse of the personal pronoun," said the superintendent.

"Ill Long Need, She Says.

"I have simply solved a need that has been long impending. The English language has in need of a personal pronoun of the third person, singular number, that will indicate both sexes and will thus eliminate our present awkwardness of speech."

"Some years ago at the university which I attended, this subject came up for discussion and after two and one-half hours we had come to no decision and we all bore a rather strained attitude towards one another."

Uses New Words Throughout.

"The problem has bothered me frequently and the solution of it occurred to me was on my way to this meeting. Most of the pronouns of the feminine gender end in 'er, and so all you have to do is to take the masculine form and add 'er."

Mrs. Young used the simplified form throughout her address. Some of the forms she used were he'er for he or she, his'er for his or hers, and him'er for him or her.

The principals expressed themselves enthusiastically over the innovation, and each resolved as he'er left the meeting that he'er would introduce the form in his'er class.