

THE CIVILIAN

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Concerning Personal Appearances.

The Civilian has long been sighing for a new cover. To tell the truth, it has never been greatly struck with its personal appearance. The sincere admiration it has always felt for itself has been based entirely upon the beauty of its excellence and the consciousness of virtue.

But what with the new leaves coming out, and the return of good times, and one thing and another, we begin to feel more than ever like a new suit of clothes.

Shall we be perfectly frank in discussing this matter with our readers? We might very easily make a joke about the frivolity of clothes and pretend that the present austere cut of *The Civilian's* jib represents the triumph of mind over manner. But no; our real feeling is one of the tremendous seriousness of the question. A cover design that shall express as well as adorn the lofty purpose of a journal which aims to represent the civil service of Canada! Put that way, our point of view appeals, does it not?

Here a bright idea strikes us. Why shouldn't we obtain this, like so many of our benefits, from the civil service? In other words, can any of our readers design a cover for us? We would not wish to intrude mercenary considerations, but for the best design offering we will pay as good a price as is going, and for ideas that may be adopted, in proportion.

Perhaps we may be allowed a word as to our own notions on the subject — not that they are to be considered as final or binding by any means. They are, as we have said, pretty ambitious. *The Civilian's* cover design should be an apotheosis of two basic ideas — public service and Canadianism. Without being able to put it on paper, what we see in our mind's eye on the front of the future *Civilian* is something like this: A lordly pine and maple parting their boughs to allow a glimpse of the stately towers of Parliament Hill, set in a landscape of cornland, river and mountain unequalled for splendour on the globe! So much for the still life. As for the rest, we are bound there shall be a beaver. The beaver stands for Canada. And why should it not stand for the civil service — uncanny, almost, in its intelligence, simple and faithful in its habits, indefatigable in its industry? Yes, the beaver must be in it.

If anyone can help us to realize something like the above, we will, as we have said, be properly grateful. There is no hurry. In fact, we may admit that our purpose in giving so much prominence to the matter is partly to show, as it were while passing along, on what high lines in every detail the policy of this paper is constantly and consistently being directed.