

the "whiz-bang" generally cleared the dug-out, and the rifle grenade most often landed behind the parades. But in these days of the Somme onslaught—the most concentrated and sustained destruction the world has ever known, a man may not unreasonably feel that only the most extravagant good luck will bring him through. And yet with it all there is the lure of the Big Chance. There is the prospect of paying back many an old Salient score. There is the thrill of participating in the Big Decision, of playing a fighting part in the greatest battle of history, of having a hand in defeating the world's greatest enemy, of being in at "the killing." These men have already done their bit. They return to do their utmost.

Now that the stories are reaching us of the great work of the Canadians at Courcellette, of how the boys of our old battalions have been avenging Langemarck and St. Eloi and Sanctuary Wood, it does make a man keen to be alongside again with the old bunch, even though the risks be unquestionably formidable. And once the uncertainty is dissolved, and a fellow receives the "back to the line" verdict, he steels himself to the issue, and quite ceases to feel sorry for himself.

Some of us who go back will also come back, both veterans, and victors at the finish. For these the return to Canada will be truly triumphant. It will be a great privilege to live to see the vindication of so great a cause, in which he has played a fighting man's part to the conclusion.

For those who may go under, there is another and perhaps a greater glory. Life will always be sweet—especially to a Canadian. But a man who has voluntarily enlisted has at least decided—however dimly he may have thought it out, that the life of the nation is greater than the life of an individual, and that the freedom of all is more than the safety of himself. And neither those lives nor those deaths will be in vain.

Everyman of us here has one of these three destinies before him. There may seem to be a discrimination of luck about them, but there is compensation in each. And, so, let us face the Board of Destiny "with a heart for any fate."

P. P.

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The British Columbia Elections, in which the provinces overseas soldiers balloted, both in England and France, resulted in a complete reversal of party preponderance. The followers of the absentee Premier, Sir Richard McBride, retained only six seats, while the liberals won 37, with four constituencies still in doubt. Brewster succeeds Bowser as Government Trader. The prohibition plebesite obtained a majority of 8,000.