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We learn with much regret of the death of Lance-Corpl. William F. Allen, Royal Sussex Regiment, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Allen, of Lea Hurst, The Avenue, Gravesend, whilst on active service. Before joining up in December, 1914, Mr. Allen was a clerk in the Union of London and Smith's Bank. He was only 24 years of age, and had been in France about four months when he was promoted to Lance-Corporal. He was an enthusiastic footballer, and played for Milton Church F.C., the team which won the cup in the League.

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Mr. E. Allen, the father, a well-known pilot, received the intimation of his son's death in a letter from Co. Q.M.S. Phillips, in which he stated that Lance-Corpl. Allen and another Lance-Corpl. had returned to the Stores to look after the Company rations, when a shell killed both instantaneously. Apart from his extreme usefulness and ability he was an excellent companion. He had done good work with his Company and also as a bomber. He had been "over the top" five times. The Chaplain attached to the Battalion writes:— "I regret to say that your son, Lance-Corpl. Allen, was killed on the 20th inst. He suffered no pain before his death, as so many of our poor chaps do, and it may bring you some little comfort to know that he has been buried with all the reverence and Christian respect that are rightly his due. I performed the service when he was laid to rest in a well laid out British Cemetery. His grave will be marked by a cross. May God be with you in the sorrow which this news must necessarily bring."

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