

Southland Times. 3 May 1917 (PP) [01/06/2021]

The following extract was taken from a letter written by Private Arthur Acton, of Collingwood, Invercargill, on 2nd March: —“We are at present camped near a Y.M.C.A. and a tip-top canteen. We can get a cup of hot tea and biscuits at the Y.M. whenever we feel like having one. At the canteen, we can get almost anything at very small cost, so you see we are not in a bad place. The Y.M.C.A. is one of the best institutions here, in fact, it is the best at the present time. It does not matter where you go you will always find one of their huts nearby. I have come across them two or three hundred yards behind the firing-line. We received some gift parcels about four days ago, and the one which I drew contained a real good cake and some sweets. Didn't we have a tangi that night! It is a shame how full we were when we went to bed. We have a good cook in our section now; and he turns out some meals fit for a king. He makes us a duff twice a week and with it some real good sauce. I don't know how we would get on if we were to lose him.”

Southland Times. 31 October 1917 (PP) [01/06/2021]

PRIVATE A. ACTON.

Word has been received by Mr H. Acton, Collingwood, that his son, Private Arthur Acton, who enlisted in February 1916, with the Signallers, was wounded on 12th October. He is now 21 years of age and enlisted with the 5th Reinforcement at the age of 19. Bom at Cave, South Canterbury, and educated at Pleasant Point, he formerly engaged in farming, and was studying electrical engineering at the time of enlistment.