



Squadron-Leader Smart.

### NEW WAPITI FLIGHT RECORD

#### From Melbourne To Sydney In 3 Hours 45 Minutes

Another inter-capital air speed record was established by the Director of Air Force training (Squadron-Leader H. G. Smart) yesterday. Piloting a new Wapiti plane, he flew from Melbourne to Sydney in 3 hours 45 minutes, averaging about 140 miles an hour for the 525 miles.

The previous fastest time of 3 hours 55 minutes for this trip was put up by Squadron-Leader Hepburn in a D.H.9a plane some years ago.

On June 2 Squadron-Leader Smart flew a Wapiti from Adelaide to Melbourne in 2 hours 40 minutes, averaging 165 miles an hour, and in another Wapiti the Chief of the Air Staff (Air Commodore R. Williams) failed by 10 minutes to equal this record.

Squadron-Leader Smart was accompanied by Flight-Lieutenant J. P. McCauley and a mechanic. He will attend the three weeks' training camp of the third Citizen Air Force squadron at Richmond, New South Wales, which commenced yesterday.

The remarkable flights made in the Wapitis have pleased the Air Board, as they prove the suitability of the type for Australian conditions. Twenty-eight of the machines will be bought. Eight are here, and it is expected the rest will be here soon.

Undated story, believed to be 1929. New record for flight from Melbourne to Sydney set by Squadron Leader H G Smart, Director of Air Force training. Smart, accompanied by Flight-lieutenant J McCauley, was attending a Citizen Air Force camp at Richmond. His record of 3 hours 45 minutes, average speed 165 mph, was ten minutes faster than another aircraft, flown by Air Commodore R Williams, chief of Staff. The previous record was held by Squadron Leader Hepburn in a DH-9a.