AUST. 'FLYING CAR' FACTORY PLANNED

An Italian aeronautical engineer reached Melbourne last Wednesday with plans to mass-produce a flying car in Australia.

He is Luigi Pellarini, 38.

"Australia will be a most suitable country for the planecar, because of your long distances," he said.

He plans to build two models. The twin-engined model would cost about £3,000 to produce, and the single-engined model would cost £2,200.

Both have already been built in Italy.

He added: "If you want to fly to Sydney in my car-plane and the weather is bad, you just fold back the wings and drive.

'As soon as the weather clears up, you can take off and fly."

He said he made the world's first flying car in 1945, and every year for the next five years he had made a new model.

"I sold all the models, but I made only a little profit," he said.

The single-engined model had flown 250 hours and been driven 8,000 miles. Pellarini said.

Fuel consumption had been 25 miles to the gallon, with ordinary petrol for driving and high octane for flying.