

TWENTY-FIRST TRAINER PLANE

Presented to RAAF Magnificent Response to Appeal

ON Sunday afternoon, May 30, another of those patriotic functions for which 4BC has become noted took place. The station and Dr. Goddard were hosts to Mr Lawson, Federal Minister for Transport, and a cheque for another plane for the Royal Australian Air Force Training Squadron was handed over. THIS cheque covered the cost of the twenty-first trainer plane to be subscribed for by listeners to Station 4BC, Brisbane. The Minister for Transport, Mr Lawson, was supported by the Repatriation Minister, Mr Frost.

IN his remarks, Mr Lawson paid due credit to Dr. Goddard and 4BC for their work in this appeal, and classed it as the greatest individual effort of its kind in Australia; the twenty-first plane meaning that a total of £31,500 had been handed over to the Federal Government for this purpose as a result of the appeal.



THE Prime Minister, Mr John Curtin, sent the following wire, which was read during the ceremony:

"On behalf of the Commonwealth Government I extend warmest thanks to all concerned in this magnificent effort in support of the national cause. I congratulate Dr. Goddard on the fine work he has done."

ADDITIONALLY, a telegram was received.. from the Minister for Air, Mr Drakeford, regretting his inability to be present. Mr.

MR. CURTIN Drakeford, on more than one occasion in the past, has personally accepted cheques resulting from this appeal and has a very warm corner in his heart for the effort. Mr Drakeford's telegram read as follows:

"On behalf of Government and Royal Australian Air Force I extend sincere thanks to Station 4BC and the Round Table Plane Appeal Club and organiser Dr. Goddard for presentation of twenty-first Tiger Moth. Aircraft will be used for training our pilots of future. Congratulations also to all associated with presentation on their magnificent and long sustained effort. Such patriotic gesture greatly appreciated by Government, which believes that generosity and spirit self-sacrifice will be inspiration to whole Commonwealth and to our gallant airmen."

IT is interesting to survey briefly the history of this magnificent effort which set out to provide a single trainer plane as a token. The subscriptions came so fast that in the initial presentation the cost of three trainer planes was procured. The response challenged both the station and Dr. Goddard to further efforts, and with the twenty-first plane now handed over, the appeal continues, and the present objective is three more planes to round off two full squadrons.