

## PLANE IN THE SEA.

### CADET'S LUCKY ESCAPE.

#### Mishap Near Point Cook.

MELBOURNE, June 2.—A Royal Australian Air Force Avro Cadet aeroplane made a forced landing in the waters of Port Phillip Bay late today. The pilot, Air Cadet C. R. Kelaher (about 20), of Point Cook, was rescued from drowning by a launch from the training school. He was not injured but he is suffering from shock. The aeroplane was floated by means of a buoy and dragged to within 100 yards of the shore. It will be salvaged tomorrow.

Air Cadet Kelaher had a remarkable escape from death. In company with other trainees he was flying above the marshy land adjoining the beach, between Point Cook training school and Altona. For some reason he was forced to attempt a landing, and he glided down to the sea. The machine struck the water about half a mile from the beach. Other trainees saw the landing, which was also observed from Point Cook. A motor launch was sent out from the station, about a mile and a half along the beach.

Air Cadet Kelaher was taken uninjured from the aeroplane, which was sinking. The machine was made fast to buoys and floated. A motor tender was sent from the flying school with a number of air-craftsmen, and tonight the Avro was hauled to within 100 yards of the beach, where its wheels touched bottom. Tomorrow it will be hauled ashore and taken to the hangars. The machine was not badly damaged, as far as could be seen. The fuselage and wings were undamaged but the cockpit and engine were immersed in salt water.

The Avro Cadet is one of a draft of machines recently imported for training purposes. No other machine of the type has been involved in a mishap in Australia. Air Cadet Kelaher came from Tasmania.

WEST AUSTRALIAN 3.6.36