

'SAUCER' IN SKY SLOWS TRAIN WHILE CREW WATCHES

A "flying saucer" almost stopped the 6 a.m. Geelong-Ararat goods train today.

Driver Ernie Smith and his fireman, Colin Beacon, were in their train between Duverney and Berrybank at 7.20 a.m. when Ernie shouted, pointing towards the eastern sky:

"What on earth is that?"

About four miles away, in the grey morning sky a dark-purple object was diving and banking.

"It was round," Ernie said. "It seemed to stop

still for about a minute and a half then dive at enormous speed.

"Suddenly it pulled out of the dive, banked at the same speed and hung as if suspended again.

"It was about 400 feet up. We watched for four

minutes before it disappeared behind a bank of trees.

"While we were watching the goods train slowed down to about five mph.

"We made no mistake about this saucer. The country here is as flat as a board."