ployed in the first two volumes prevail in this third volume of the Lincoln chronology. A particularly useful feature is the 136-page index applying to all three volumes, whose topical entries should prove of inestimable value to the Lincoln scholar.

Chatham College J. Cutler Andrews


Many volumes have been written about baseball and in most instances they have been devoted to the players, their fielding and batting records, with appropriate anecdotes—true or fictitious.

Baseball—The Early Years by Harold Seymour, however, is a book relating the history and development of the game, from its beginning in 1839 (which the author disputes with documentary evidence) to the formation of the American League in 1901.

The tribulations, trials, internal wars and jealousies among club owners are set forth in quite complete detail—too voluminous, in fact. The truly glamorous era of baseball followed the advent of the American League, from 1901 to the present day, a period in which the game has expanded and grown tremendously.

It might be assumed that the author intends to write another volume on the later phases of baseball. This book is of greatest interest to real old-timers, those whose memories go back 50 to 60 years. It is to be doubted if the youth of the country is concerned with events from 1839 to 1900.

Such figures of the rough and ready days as Anson, Brush, Soden, Doubleday, Clarkson, Ebbets, Hugh Duffy, Buck Ewing, Hanlon, McGraw, Connie Mack, Radbourne, Cy Young and many others, lend a romantic air to a time in baseball which roughly corresponds to the days of the Wild West.

Pittsburghers will be especially interested in men who contributed to the game here, such as Barney Dreyfuss, Honus Wagner, Harry Pulliam, Mark Baldwin, Judge Landis, Jimmy Galvin, Ed Gumbert, and W. A. Nimick.

The author is not known as a sports writer, his background being that of turnstile operator, scoreboard man, and batboy. Nevertheless, he has done intensive research from many documentary
sources and contradicts many accepted facts and theories previously unquestioned.

The book recounts the earliest teams, their rivalries, their coalescence as leagues through all the turmoil of a growing sport in the 19th Century. Minor errors creep in periodically, such as matters of fact, misspelling of names and wrong dates.

But all in all, it is an engrossing work to deep students of the game and to appreciate the 1961 status of baseball it is a worthwhile exposition of historical background in the same sense which makes it necessary to be familiar with American history in order to understand present-day developments.

Mr. Seymour depends upon “hitherto unknown sources” for much of his material and follows the progress from a purely amateur sport to one of professionalism, principally due to the National League and its early President, William A. Hulbert. He was graduated from Drew University in 1934; received a master’s degree and Ph.D. from Cornell University, where he was awarded a doctorate for a thesis on the history of baseball—a strange theme indeed for a doctorate. Mr. Seymour is at present an Associate Professor of History at Finch College in New York.

Present-day readers will look forward to a volume bringing the history up to date, more within the special range of their experiences and memories. This is a highly useful book for the student and for the collector of baseball lore.

Pittsburgh

WILLIAM E. BENSWANGER

The Welsh in America, Letters from the Immigrants. Edited by Alan Conway. (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1961. 341 p., index, bibliography. $6.00.)

A welcome addition to the part of history that deals with mankind in motion is this collection of 197 letters written by Welsh emigrants about America in the nineteenth century.

Mr. Conway, lecturer in American history at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, Wales, chose letters to families, friends, and newspaper and periodical editors to reveal the role of the “corporal’s guard of the big battalions of emigrants” that entered the United States in the nineteenth century. The letters, the majority of which are translated from the original Welsh, depict