

Black Baseball Players in Canada



A Biographical
Dictionary,
1881-1960



Barry
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and
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Foreword by
Tom Hawthorn

At long last, we (Barry Swanton & I) are in the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown!

And, in the Library of Congress, Yale University, University of Toronto and . . .

Well, at least we're in the libraries of those hallowed institutions with our book, *Black Baseball Players in Canada, A Biographical Dictionary 1881-1960*.

It's been a journey of nearly three years from the idea of the book to publication by McFarland & Company of North Carolina, one of the leading publishers of scholarly and reference books in North America.

Primarily, the focus is on Afro-American and Caribbean players who ventured to the Great White North in the 1940s, 50s and 60s. For many, such as Curly Williams and Barney Brown, the Canadian experience allowed them to continue baseball careers which had been severely limited with the decline of Negro ball following the integration of the major leagues by Jackie Robinson. For younger stars, like Pumpsie Green and Elston Howard, it was an opportunity to showcase their skills in a hospitable and level playing field.

Of the sixteen teams of the day, seven were integrated by players with roots in Canadian baseball.

From Jose Acosta, the "half-pint hurling demon", to Roberto Zayas, the fleet centre-fielder of the Lloydminster Meridians, the book contains biographical sketches, career highlights, and statistics for hundreds of players along with information about the teams and the leagues and several dozen photos.

The cover features a painting of Negro League great Chet Brewer by New York artist Jacqueline Jolles. Foreword by award-winning journalist Tom Hawthorn.

Enjoy.

Jay-Dell Mah