

BOOK NOTES

Alfred James, *Averages & Results of Australian First-Class Cricket, Volume II, From 1918/19 to 1957/58*. The author, Wahroonga, 1987, pp.205. \$20 including postage, from the author, 65 Billyard Avenue, Wahroonga, 2076.

This is the second of three volumes which will provide a complete record of the seasonal averages of players and the results of all first class matches involving Australian teams from 1850-51 to date. This volume covers 1,063 matches over four decades. The book is researched meticulously: James has checked the scorecards in *Wisden*, the *Cricketer* and the *N.S.W. Year Book* together with press figures. He has also inspected many of the original scoresheets.

The volume includes scoresheets of nine games of disputed first-class status. A short and intriguing introduction provides a glimpse of some of the issues involved in the ongoing battles (most tenaciously fought amongst statisticians) about the status of game on the fringe of first-class status.

This is an essential and very useful reference volume for all those involved in cricket history research.