This book is a printed version of my university lectures; accordingly, it omits insignificant details. From among traits typical to only one of the Baltic languages, only the more important ones have been discussed.¹

Quotations from my *Lettische Grammatik* are taken from the second edition which was published in Latvian in 1951 with the same paragraph numbers.

I have considered it unnecessary to repeat all the literature quoted in my *Lettische Grammatik*.

J. Endzelīns

¹ In the original text Endzelins says: 'For the sake of brevity I have written not (Lithuanian) *tokia* or *tokia*, but *tokia*.’ For the sake of clarity for the non-Baltic reader Endzelins’ practice was not followed in this text. If there are several ways of accenting a word, the word is written twice, once with the first type of accentuation and the second time with the second type of accentuation.
TRANSLATORS' FOREWORD

This book is a somewhat revised version of Jānis Endzelins' (Jan Endzelin's) book, Baltu valodu skaņas un formas, published by the Latvijas valsts izdevniecība (Riga, 1948). The English translation, however, was originally made by William R. Schmalstieg from the Lithuanian translation of this book, viz. Baltų kalbų garsai ir formos, published by the Valstybinė politinės ir mokslinės literatūros leidykla (Vilnius, 1957). This English translation was checked against the original by B. Jēgers.

Omitted from the English translation (as it was from the Lithuanian translation) is the unfortunate postscript by Prof. Boris A. Larin in which Prof. Larin apologizes for Endzelin's disinclination to accept the teachings of N. Ja. Marr.

This translation contains explanations of any points which the translators thought might not be clear to the average well-informed American student of linguistics or philology.

The terms stem-stressed and end-stressed have been used instead of barytone and oxytone (French, German baryton, oxyton) and the term intonation instead of pitch stress. Following Endzelin's practice the term Prussian (abbreviation: Pr.) is used rather than the more common Old Prussian in the body of the text. The student should understand that these are merely two different names for the same language. In general a simple easily understandable word has been used instead of a technical linguistic term.

The terms one time (or once), two times, etc., in parentheses occurring after a word in Old Prussian denote the number of times the form is attested. In case one word has several different types of intonation the word is repeated with each different intonation.

Endzelin had the practice of using the Roman type font, rather than italics, to denote some doubt as to the phonetic interpretation of forms which he cited. The translators have taken the liberty of putting all
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words (and parts of words) under discussion into italics. It was thought that the variation in type font would serve to confuse rather than to help the student.

The orthography has not been modernized. Thus g was retained in such words as Lith. augštas 'high' (an older etymological spelling based on augti 'to grow'). In Latvian words the spelling used in Latvian linguistic literature has been retained. Thus uo is written for contemporary standard o, e.g. Latv. duod '(he) gives' rather than the standard dod, ę for the open e and e for the closed e, a distinction which does not occur in the standard orthography where only e is used.

Macrons over long vowels have been added in this translation in those Latvian and Lithuanian words where the standard orthography has them. Thus this book has, e.g. Lith. dūmai and Latv. dūmi instead of Endzelin's Lith. dūmai and Latv. dūmi. It was thought that this might be of help to the beginning student of Baltic linguistics.

As another help, every example given by Endzelin is translated into English and additional explanatory information is added if it is thought necessary. In a series of words with the same meaning the English translation follows the first word in the series and it may be assumed that the following words in italics have the same meaning unless the contrary is stated. Diminutives are for the most part untranslatable into English, so either no attempt is made to give the translation or else the word little or small is used in the definition. The word little (small) in such definitions merely denotes that the word is a diminutive. Likewise the word oh in a definition merely denotes that the word translated stands in the vocative case.

Following individual sections, wherever applicable, are in smaller type short commentaries prepared by William R. Schmalstieg and B. Jēgers.

An index to the translation — not to be found in the original — prepared chiefly by Bertram Zariņš, Mrs. Richard Zariņš and B. Jēgers is found at the end of this book. The numbers refer to paragraphs rather than to pages. This enables the user to check the original text as well as the translation.

The idea for an English translation was originally suggested by Prof. Anthony Salys, who assisted in the initial stages of the preparation of this book.

The translators are especially grateful to Prof. Valdis Zeps for his numerous suggestions concerning the translation, stylistic improvements, etc. Not all of his suggestions have been followed, and the book is un-
doubtedly the worse for it. The translators themselves must accept the responsibility for any errors which may remain.

The translators herewith thank the following individuals who helped type and correct the manuscript: Miss Helen Dahmus, Mrs. William McCamley, Miss Rosemary Morgan, Miss Marilyn Nelson, Mrs. John Ridge, Mrs. David Smith and Mrs. Warren Smith.

We should also like to express our thanks for constant encouragement to Prof. Thomas F. Magner, Associate Dean for Research of the College of Liberal Arts of the Pennsylvania State University. For help in defraying costs of publication the translators are grateful to Dr. John Anderson, Director of the Pennsylvania State University Institute for Arts and Humanistic Studies, to the Lithuanian Foundation (Lietuvių fondas) and the Foundation for Latvian Culture and the Group of Latvian Baltologists in Chicago, all of which contributed generously.

A translator's lot is not a happy one and probably the book could still have been improved in many ways. The translators realize that Endzelin's book does not represent the latest thinking in comparative Baltic linguistics. Nevertheless, to the best of our knowledge no complete comparative grammar of the Baltic languages is available in English and we know of none in preparation. Until one is written this book will have to suffice.

N.B. Since the appropriate sign for the Latvian open e (i.e. ė) was unavailable, we have decided to use the sign ĕ in its place.

W.R.S. and B.J.