

PREFACE

“Догнать и перегнать.” With this Khrushchevian saying in mind I have tried to overcome the psychic burden that the work of Jan Baudouin de Courtenay inevitably imposes upon every student of Resian. During the preparatory stage of my research I became more and more sceptical about Baudouin’s achievements and set out to shed some light in the darkness, not without an overdose of youthful dash. My findings in the field changed my scepticism into admiration. As the years passed I realised how close he must have been to the descriptive “truth”. If I did not want to become overwhelmed by the sheer amount of descriptive problems, I had to set a far more modest goal for myself. The results of the decision to reduce the number of problems to a manageable size are contained in this book.

The foundation for this study was laid during a four year appointment as *Assistent In Opleiding* at the University of Amsterdam, where I started to work on a research project that was drawn up by Dr. Jadranka Gvozdanović. Apart from support from this university the research was kept financially afloat by the *Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek* and the *Circolo Culturale Resiano “Rozajanski Dum”*.

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