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	THE ROLE OF SUBJECTIVE FACTORS IN PHONETIC CHANGES; 8. THE CONCEPT OF LAW IN OUR DAYS; 9. SOCIAL LAWS, LINGUISTIC LAWS; 10. PHONETIC LAW OR SOUND-CHANGING TENDENCY?; CONCLUDING THOUGHTS; ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS WORK; BIBLIOGRAPHY; INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	This monograph has as its objective to give a critical survey of the development of the theories concerning the essence, the function, and the most characteristic (determining) features of language, and to explore and evaluate the motive forces responsible for this development. The author explains mainly the progressive elements of the theoretical foundations and methodological procedures of different times and schools (trends), and places them in the process which presents the course of development of linguistic theory as an organic whole. He deals in detail with the foreign (mainly American)