THE
LOW-BACK-MERGER SHIFT

Uniting the Canadian Vowel Shift, the California Vowel Shift, and Short Front Vowel Shifts across North America
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Edited by
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NOTE FROM THE SERIES EDITOR

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as the editor of the Publication of the American Dialect series for the past 14 years. I have had the privilege of working with a number of leading figures in our field as well as an outstanding group of younger scholars. Our absolutely invaluable managing editor, Charles Carson, has made the editor’s job much easier. I have relied on his knowledge of the publication process, his outstanding attention to detail, and his impeccable sense of style. Every manuscript published during my tenure has benefited immeasurably from Charles’s expert guidance.

It is now my pleasure to introduce my successor, my good friend Natalie Schilling of Georgetown University. Natalie is herself a leading scholar in our field who has published in *American Speech*, contributed to PADS, and coauthored the leading textbook on American dialects. I am certain that the reputation of our monograph series will reach new heights under her expert guidance.

ROBERT BAYLEY

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