

When **Paul Henry Lang** died in 1991, the following obituary appeared in the Winter, 1991 (Vol. 14, No. 3, p. 66) issue of *The Double Reed*:

In Memory of Paul Henry Lang, 1901-1991

Paul Henry Lang, reknowned musicologist, music critic, bassoonist, and IDRS Honorary member, died at his home in Lakeville, Connecticut, on Sept. 22, 1991. He was 90 years old.

As a pioneer in the field of music, "...he helped determine the shape of musicological discourse in the United States through his writing, his teaching at Columbia University, and as Editor of *Musical Quarterly* from 1945 to 1973," according to Allan Kozin, whose obituary of Lang appeared in the New York Times.

His book, *Music in Western Civilization* has been the standard music history textbook since its first publishing in 1941. He was also music critic for the New York Herald Tribune from 1954 to 1965 and a regular contributor to *High Fidelity* and *Opus* magazines.

Born and educated in Budapest, Hungary, he began his career in 1922 as a bassoonist in Budapest orchestras, but soon switched to the study of music history and musicology. The IDRS joins the entire music world in mourning the loss of this most outstanding musician.

At the Tallahassee Conference the Executive Committee of the IDRS also adopted policy guidelines for Honorary Membership that further defined the status of this position. These were printed in the Spring, 1984, (Vol. 7, No. 1, p. 5) issue of *The Double Reed*, and are reprinted below:

"Nominees for Honorary Membership in the IDRS should be living persons who have contributed in a widely-recognized and significant manner to the advancement of the double reed specialty. Except upon the unanimous consensus of the Committee, a limit of two persons (one bassoonist and/or one oboist) per year may be approved by the Society.

The status of Honorary Membership is of such importance that the Society should not, and does not, consider it necessary to confer this distinction on a regular basis, rather only in cases of highest merit. It is hoped that selection of Honorary Members will reflect as many aspects of double reed activity as possible.

Proposals for the lifetime status of Honorary Membership man be made only by members of the IDRS and shall be only in the form of a written statement of support which shall be mailed to the Chair of the Honorary Membership Committee no

later than two months prior to the date of the annual meeting. This statement should be a resumé of the nominee and should include name, address, phone, birthdate, and as much supporting material as desired. The names of nominees shall not be announced. The Chair of the Committee will share this information ONLY with other members of the Committee. The Committee shall meet during the annual convention and be prepared with recommendations at the second business meeting. Proposals shall include the name of the nominator(s).

Honorary Membership shall not be required to pay dues, shall receive all publications and notices of the Society, and shall be listed in the publications of the Society. They shall receive a framed certificate of their election. Nominees may be elected to honorary status upon receiving two-thirds vote of the voting members at the annual business meeting."

The twelfth Honorary Membership of the IDRS went to the French bassoonist **Fernand Oubradous** (1903-1986) at the Conference in Graz, Austria, in August, 1984. Long known as one of the pre-eminent performers on the French-system bassoon, Oubradous was interviewed in 1980 by fellow French bassoonist, Jean-Pierre Sequin, and this interview first appeared in the now-defunct journal *Le Basson* (No. 6, March, 1980) in French. Following his death in January, 1986, Hawaiian bassoonist Philip Gottling translated it, and it was reprinted in the *Journal of the International Double Reed Society* No. 14, 1986 on pages 18-21. It is reproduced below.

Fernand Oubradous: A Half Century of Woodwind History

*Jean-Pierre Sequin
(translated by Philip Göttling)*

(The following article is very timely because of the recent death of IDRS Honorary Member, Fernand Oubradous, in January 1986. The interview by French bassoonist, Jean-Pierre Sequin, first appeared in Le Basson (No. 6, March 1980) and reprinted here with the kind permission of the author and the publisher, Les Amis du Basson Français. ED)

The "Société de Musique de Chambre pour Instruments à Vent", later called the "Association Symphonique de Chambre de Paris," celebrated its centenary in 1979. This prestigious organization was founded in 1879 by the flutiest Paul Taffanel, principal flute of the Paris Opéra and of the Société des Concerts du Conservatoire [translator's note: the latter became the nucleus of the Orchestre de Paris]. Taffanel brought together the greatest French