



World Gifted

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

VOL. 2, No. 3

NOVEMBER, 1981

The President's Corner

LOOKING AHEAD

Most of those children with outstanding ability who are now entering school will spend the majority of their additional life in the Twenty-first Century. It seems likely that that century will either see mankind emerge from the problems confronting it on the global basis or will become dragged under by unsolved problems of pollution, population, or global conflict. The gifted children and adults that we concern ourselves with can play a large part in determining in which direction we go. A World Council that has an interest in these youngsters needs to do more than just celebrate our own progress every two years.

While we have all known this, we have been limited by our lack of resources and our geographic dispersion in terms of what to do. In discussion with the Delegate Assembly we have determined that there are some steps we can take that can be helpful. We can establish the following:

1. *A consultant service in which we would provide a roster of people willing to provide consultation around specific issues related to gifted children and adults. This consultation service could then be made available to nations other than their own when they desire it with no cost other*

(Continued on page 2)

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

An amendment to the Constitution enables all organizations with an interest in the gifted to affiliate with the World Council. Previous provisions limited affiliation to a single national organization in any one country. Organizations desiring to affiliate must have three members of the World Council on their executive committee and should make application to the World Council Executive Committee through the Secretariat. Affiliation carries with it recognition by the World Council, the right to use the World Council logo, and opportunity to participate as an intermediary agency in carrying on programs of the World Council.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE DRAWS 1200

Qualitative and quantitative success marked the Fourth World Conference on the Gifted and Talented, August 21-25, in Montreal. Almost 1200 persons represented 40 countries, participating in close to 300 seminars and hearing 5 major addresses. Arrangements had been made for simultaneous translation for a multilingual audience. Major speakers came from England, France, Canada, Nigeria, and the United States. Brief summaries of their talks appear elsewhere in this issue of *World Gifted*.

Participants were able to enjoy cultural programs presented by the Conference Committees and also to sample the attractions of Montreal which boasts the atmosphere of Europe and the pace of the United States.

Success of the Conference was due to large and energetic committees that succeeded despite a protracted postal strike in Canada and the air controllers' strike in the United States. The World Council benefited by a substantial increase in membership. The World Council and all participants are much indebted to the numerous persons who worked so hard and especially to Bruce M. Shore and Ronald H. Tali, chairmen of the Organizing and Finance Committees, and to Richard G. Brown, the on-site director.

WORLD-WIDE STUDENT NETWORK ?

Arlene Dover, a graduate student at McGill University wants to ascertain whether other persons are interested in a World Council Network for Graduate Students. Purposes: Exchange of information on student research and field experiences, and weekend seminars where possible. Write Ms. Dover, % B. Shore, Faculty of Education, McGill University, 3700 McTavish, Montreal, PQ H3A 1Y2, Canada.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN CANADA

"The Gifted. . . Children Whose Time Has Come" is the theme of the second international conference on gifted students to be conducted at Sheridan College, Halton, Ont., May 19-21, 1982. Write to Co-convenors, Edna McMillan and George Rabb, Gifted Conference, West Education Centre, 2399 Mountainside Dr., Burlington, Ont., L7P 1C6, Canada.

GALLAGHER NEW PRESIDENT

James Gallagher, Director of the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center at the University of North Carolina, was elected President of the World Council for the term from 1981 to 1985. Dr. Gallagher is a widely recognized consultant on education of the gifted and author of the most commonly used text in the United States on the gifted, *Teaching the Gifted Child*. He edited the Proceedings of the Second World Conference on the Gifted and Talented in San Francisco in 1977.

Dr. Gallagher succeeds Henry Collis, formerly Headmaster of St. Paul's in London and Director of the English National Association for Gifted Children. It was under Mr. Collis's leadership that the First World Conference was held in London in 1975.

An "exchange of seals" marked the transition at the Annual Business Meeting. Mr. Collis gave Dr. Gallagher the corporate seal of the World Council. Dr. Gallagher responded with a parting gift from the World Council--an aquatic seal handsomely carved by an Eskimo sculptor.

JUNIOR HAM RADIO MORSE CODE NETWORK

Heloise Parry, Field Officer for Explorers Unlimited (Southern Teachers Centre, 2 Edward St., Glebe, Tasmania 7000, Australia) writes in behalf of "a very small group of young people" in Southern Tasmania who "would like to help grow a Ham Radio Morse Code Network of communication which might eventually spread all over our beautiful little world." "Ham-sters" of the World, Unite! and write to Mrs. Parry.

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| <i>Newsletter of the</i> | |
| WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED & TALENTED CHILDREN | |
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| Teachers College, Columbia University | |
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| Editor - Milton J. Gold | |
| <i>Executive Committee</i> | |
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"CHALLENGING THEIR POTENTIAL"

Proceedings of 1979 Conference

"Gifted Children: Challenging Their Potential," Proceedings of the Third International Conference in Jerusalem, made its first appearance at the Montreal Conference. The volume was edited by a committee consisting of Alan Kramer, chairman, Dan Bitan, Nava Butler-Por, Azriel Evyatar, and Erica Landau.

Contents are graced with articles by:

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| W. Abraham | G. Armbruster | A. Baldwin |
| A. Berman | D. Bitan | K. Brown |
| B. Burg | N. Butler-Por | A. Chiba |
| S. Cohn | M. Comte | P. Congdon |
| V. Ehrlich | T. Epley | A. Evyatar |
| J. Freeman | J. Gallagher | J. Getzels |
| T. Globerson | J. Hagen | R. Handel |
| F. Karnes | E. Landau | I. Lanzer |
| G. Leder | W. Lett | A. Lipper III |
| N. Maier | S. Mari | B. Shore |
| F. Sieghart | D. Sisk | M. Smilansky |
| J. Terrassier | | P. Tilsley |

The Proceedings were published with generous funding from the Lipper Foundation, the Fund for Higher Education, and The Gifted Children Newsletter. Copies may be ordered at \$15.50 US, including shipping, from Trillium Press, P.O. Box 921, New York, NY 10159

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LOOKING AHEAD

(Continued from page 1)

- than the expenses for the consultant.*
- Summaries or annotated bibliographies around major topics on gifted children could be developed and made available for circulation from the World Council Secretariat.*
- Generating interest in regional conferences that could be held in 1982 or 1984 that would supplement and stir interest in given parts of the globe in those issues without waiting for the full World Council every two years.*

As a member of the World Council you can help. Specifically you can suggest persons or perhaps yourself who might participate in the consultant service that might be made available. Second, you could suggest available bibliographies or publications that ought to be called to the attention of people interested in expanding knowledge in the field around the world. We look forward to hearing from you.

--James J. Gallagher, President

WORLD COUNCIL EXPANDS SERVICES

CLEARINGHOUSE

No service exists at present to gather and disseminate information world-wide on the gifted and talented. The World Council is eager to establish such a service within the Secretariat.

Information at this time is haphazard and incomplete. Members can contribute to a CLEARINGHOUSE by providing the following types of information for their country:

- Names of schools offering special programs*
- Names of colleges/universities offering programs for teachers*
- Titles of books published on the gifted*
- Titles of journals on the gifted*
- Names of individuals giving leadership in educating the gifted*
- Governmental action (legislative, executive) promoting gifted programs*
- Reports of research projects under way or completed*

Names of organizations devoted to the gifted.

In some countries this information may be quite voluminous. Members are asked to provide information within their own sphere of operation.

CONSULTANT SERVICE

At the Montreal Conference, President Gallagher suggested the idea of sponsoring a consultant service on the gifted. Delegates indicated strong approval of establishing a list of consultants who would offer their services gratis with only their expenses paid by the requesting agency. Persons who are willing to serve in this manner on a limited basis are asked to write to the Secretariat indicating areas of expertise and times of availability. The consultant listing would be offered to ministries of education, school systems, universities, and professional and lay organizations.

COMMITMENT FOR PARTICIPATION

A strenuous effort is being made to secure member participation in building the World Council into an effective organization. An Interest Commitment Sheet similar to that printed below was distributed at the closing meeting of the World Council in Montreal and was greeted with significant response. Members who have not already done so are urged to fill in the following form and to mail it to the World Council Secretariat, Box 218, Teachers College, New York, NY 10027.

INTEREST COMMITMENT SHEET

Name _____ Address _____

Please place an X opposite activities in which you would like to participate:

1. Distributing information from the World Council in my own work area.
2. Helping in public advocacy efforts (media, parents, groups, etc.)
3. Writing or research for Newsletters or Journal of the World Council.
4. Soliciting membership for the World Council.
5. Seeking out other organizations to be affiliates of the World Council.
6. Other. Please indicate other ways in which you may contribute to activities of the World Council.

MAJOR PRESENTATIONS FEATURE CONFERENCE

Almost 300 presentations formed the body of the Fourth World Conference on the Gifted and Talented, but at the heart were five major presentations given in plenary sessions.

Burton White

The conference opened with the beginning of life as Dr. Burton White, Director of the Center for Parent Education and formerly Professor at Harvard University, reported on his research on "competence" of children from 0-6 years of age. He stressed the crucial part played by the child's experience between the age of 7 months and 3 years, and of the difficulty of effecting significant intervention after that time. Very few people, he said, make full use of their human potential. Teaching can fulfill these three functions: To provide appropriate learning opportunities, to offer personal consultant service to children as they learn, and to maintain firm and consistent control in social relations.

Albert Jacquard

Albert Jacquard of the French Institute of Demographic Studies spoke on concepts of heritability at the second general session. He presented some information from genetic theory and suggested the "absurdity" of the argument on heredity vs. environment. He objected to the term "surdoué" ("gifted") as implying that other persons are not individuals of worth. There is no hierarchy among humans, he said. Particularly intriguing was his assertion that man is the only animal who can adapt both his environment and himself, that in a sense he makes himself. The role of society, he said, is to offer education to make people who some day will be able to manufacture themselves--to make themselves gifted.

Henry Coker

Bringing special insight on the educational problems in developing countries and particular concerns in education of the gifted, Henry Coker of the University of Lagos addressed the third plenary session. Dr. Coker emphasized the need to put these concerns into the broad perspective of national policy. Public administration, psychology, political science, and education must all be involved in confronting educational issues. In Nigeria, education of the gifted intersects with a com-

mitment to universal education after centuries of elitism in a colonial era, with objectives in the area of multi-culturalism, and with goals of national unity, economic strength and technological development. The talented, Dr. Coker, concluded, are essential as an instrument of development in the Third World.

Dorothy Coleman

Appropriately, Dorothy Coleman spoke of the English National Association for Gifted Children at the Business Meeting of the Council since it was the English NAGC that hosted the First World Conference on the Gifted and Talented that ultimately brought the World Council into being. Dr. Coleman spoke of the services offered by her organization to parents, of the research supported by it, and of cooperative efforts with the professional community.

Alanis Obomsawin

Alanis Obomsawin, film and TV producer, evoked a rising ovation in the closing session of the Conference as she described her experiences growing up as a member of a cultural minority in Canada. A Canadian Indian, she suffered from the efforts of the dominant society in the past to erase her native culture. A film director for the Canadian National Film Board and Canadian Television, she showed a cartoon for children and a documentary she had made depicting a girl growing up in Indian country to a traditional way of life. "The heart of our training," she said, is the way of our people here. . . . Every child is gifted when he comes into life. We are gifted and talented, but you will never know by the questions you ask." Ms. Obomsawin closed her talk by singing beautifully and movingly an Indian song in its traditional and unique rhythm.

The text of these addresses, plus selected seminar papers, will be published in 1982 as the Proceedings of the Fourth World Conference on the Gifted and Talented.



**Fourth World Conference
on Gifted and Talented Children**

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

CULTURAL/SOCIAL CONFERENCE EVENTS

Befitting a Conference devoted to gifted children, the major cultural activities centered about young people. The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts organized an exhibition of children's art in conjunction with the Fourth World Conference, with special assistance from Betty Jacques of McGill University. The Museum offered a special evening opening for Conference participants. The work of children from pre-school years to the age of twelve was displayed, and for each budding artist there was an enlightening biographical note on the child's artistic development.



Sébastien Brossard Klourys, 3 yrs.

A gala concert was staged for the Conference on Sunday afternoon, August 23. René Bernèche of McGill organized a program which included ballet by young children, original choreography and dance by college students, a solo pianist, and a Suzuki violin group ranging in age from three (!) to eight or ten.

Both the art and music programs gave evidence that children are the best hope of the world.

Social events included a pre-conference reception, a party for members, and a lavish buffet the last evening of the meeting. At the members' party, Klaus Urban of the University of Hannover, and D. T. E. Marjoram, Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools in England, entertained. Dr. Urban played and sang both original songs and classic German poems he has set to music. "Timmy," a song on gifted children that he wrote spe-

COUNCIL ELECTS DELEGATES, EXECUTIVE

As provided by the Constitution, Council members met in national caucuses to elect Delegates for the new biennium. Results follow:

Australia: K. Imison, M. Gross, E. Tinsdale
 Bulgaria: G. Kalushev, L. Zdravchev
 Canada: R. Banks, L. Lewis, M. Oag
 Chile: R. A. Soriano, D. H. Quinones,
 M. J. Gamba
 Denmark: A. Zachariassen
 France: H. Huon, V. Rossillon
 Germany: G. Dahme, A. Heinbokel, H. Wagner
 Iran: I. Broomand
 Ireland: V. Jelley (South), M. Eakin (North)
 Israel: N. Butler-Por, A. Kramer, N. Rubin
 Kenya: P. Kola, A. Yussufu
 Mexico: M. E. Correa, M. P. Garcia,
 N. S. Guerrero
 Netherlands: E. Van Dyck; J.J.A. Rebel-
 Runckel
 New Zealand: E. Beard, S. Havill, N. Reid
 Nigeria: H. Coker
 Philippines: A. Roldan
 Republic of China (Taiwan): Wei-fan Kuo
 South Africa: J. Omond, G. Eriksson,
 J. van der Walt
 Sudan: S. A. Agla
 United Kingdom: D. Coleman, G. Cramer,
 F. Painter
 United States: A. Baldwin, L. Finkelstein,
 I. Sato
 Uruguay: E. Valli de Triunfo; E. Triunfo

Delegates elected the following Executive Committee:

James Gallagher (USA) President
 Dan Bitan (Israel), Vice President
 Bruce Shore (Canada), Secretary
 Ron Day (Australia), Treasurer
 Elena Konstat (Mexico)
 Jean Charles Terrassier (France)
 Klaus Urban (Federal Republic of Germany)

Under the amended Constitution, Executive Committee are ex officio members of the House of Delegates with voice but without vote except for the President.

cially for the Conference, was one of the features. He has made a tape cassette of "Timmy" and other songs, available through the Secretariat for \$7 US, including shipping. Mr. Marjoram displayed his expertise as a raconteur, rendering a dramatically memorable monologue.

SPAIN HOLDS INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

To lay the foundation for a research study on the gifted in thirteen provinces, the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science conducted a seminar May 28-30 in Madrid. The Ministry is sponsoring "an important research project about the situation of the gifted in the school system in Spain, the analysis of their differential characteristics and the implications in the school dynamics." It offers the necessary budget of human and material resources "since this subject is regarded as highly strategic and closely related to the evolution and development of the near future of every country." Five members of the World Council were invited as foreign experts: J. Terrassier of France, W. Wierczkowski and H. Wagner of West Germany, D. Coleman of the United Kingdom, and M. Gamba of Chile.

Professor Gamba, President of Supraxia Universal and the Latin American Association for the Integral Development of the Gifted (A.L.A.D.I.S.) reported on the Seminar to World Gifted. Professor Gamba has taken the initiative in developing programs for the gifted in Latin America, as reported in the June issue of World Gifted. He expresses pleasure that Spain, Latin America's mother country, has been the first of the Iberian-Latin American countries "to adopt measures officially in favor of gifted children."

Outcomes of the Seminar in addition to exchange of information include stimulation of the planned research project, increasing public interest in the gifted, reinforcement of the government decision to give special attention to the gifted, and of special interest commissioning Professor Gamba to found, organize and initiate two private institutes for gifted children, one in Madrid and one in Seville, the latter to begin operations this Fall.

PHILOSOPHY COURSE FOR TEENS

James LoGiudice has sent a copy of "a philosophy course that has been working successfully in various Bucks County (PA) secondary schools." Copies may be ordered at \$3.50 US from his office, Bucks County Schools, Cross Keys Bldg., Doylestown, PA 18901.

CANADIAN FEDERATION URGES GIFTED PROGRAMS

Kirsti Jarvis has forwarded a resolution adopted by the Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation and sent to each Minister of Education in Canada. Urging that gifted and talented children "be educated to their full potential," the Federation petitions the Ministers in each Province to officially recognize the presence of gifted children in the schools and thereby encourage local school boards and Faculties of Education to offer programs for children and teachers. The resolution calls for provision of facilities for identification or intellectually and creatively gifted children and development of appropriate programs. Finally, it calls for offering of "enriched primary courses. . . aimed primarily at the intellectual gifted, but open to all students."

GIFTEDNESS--FOR A LIFETIME

Nina Wheeler writes out of concern with the whole life span, "the total psyche needs" of gifted individuals and not the academic problems of gifted youngsters alone. Noting "the tragic fact that for every needed producer of humanity's changing perception and need millions of similarly gifted persons go through their entire life unobserved," Dr. Wheeler deplores the lack of cultivation and help for these people "falling by the wayside without educated, empathetic, caring, and positive psychological help."

"It is not just the employment problems," she continues, "but problems in social relationships: craving intellectual companions a great deal older, wiser and more experienced than average available peers." Even in Mensa which accepts the upper 2 percent in human intellect, those of IQ 170 and above represent "rarities of such a magnitude that they fit in socially nowhere as yet in any formal social group presently in existence. . . . Shyness seems to be an almost natural attribute. . . because they feel (and are) different than a lesser sensitive extrovert would be --making it difficult for parent, peer, teacher, professor, and psychologist to diagnose and assist them."

Dr. Wheeler asks that persons interested in the gifted at all ages of the spectrum write to her at 5820 No. Haven Dr., North Highlands, CA 95660.

GIFTED NEWS, WORLD-WIDE

US NATIONAL CONFERENCES

The National Association for Gifted Children will hold its annual convention, November 12-14, at the Marriott Hotel, Portland, Oregon. Visitation and tours are offered November 10 and pre-convention workshops November 11. Write to NAGC, 2070 County Rd. H, St. Paul, Minn. 55112.

CEC/TAG (The Association for the Gifted) is holding a National Topical Conference on the Gifted and Talented Child, December 2-4, in Orlando, Florida. Write TAG, 1920 Association Dr., Reston, VA 22081.

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The Council for Exceptional Children (USA) has produced a Gifted and Talented Multi-Media Kit, consisting of "six ten-minute sound filmstrips that illustrate the experiences of gifted children, their teachers, families, and classmates" and supplementary materials. Units on Programming, Identification, and Social and Emotional Development are \$60 each, \$165 for the complete set. Write CEC, 1920 Association Dr., Reston, VA 22081.

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The University of Southwestern Louisiana (Lafayette, LA 70504) is offering Louisiana's first state-approved graduate program in Education of the Gifted. The new M. Ed. program offers state certification for teachers of the academically gifted. Contact Dr. Jeannette P. Parker, Coordinator of Gifted Programs at U. S.W. LA.

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The Wisconsin Council for the Gifted and Talented will hold its Eighth Annual Fall Conference October 23 and 24 at Cardinal Stritch College, Milwaukee.

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The Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education will hold its annual conference at the Marriott Hotel on City Line Ave. in Philadelphia March 26-28, 1982. Persons wishing to conduct a workshop or seminar should write Nancy Kane, 3220 Midvale Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19129.

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The Alabama Association for Talented and Gifted and the G/C/T Foundation are co-sponsoring the Third G/C/T Directions Conference at the Mobile Hilton Hotel, Mobile, Oct. 29-Nov. 1.

Write G/C/T Directions III, PO Box 66654, Mobile, AL 36660.

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The Roeper Review and The Academy for the Gifted are co-sponsoring a conference on the Urban Gifted Nov. 4 and 5 at Oakland Schools, Pontiac, Michigan. Write Dr. Richard Watson, Oakland Schools, Pontiac, MI 48054.

"GIFTED INTERNATIONAL" MAKES ITS DEBUT

Gifted International, new Journal of the World Council makes its first appearance in November, edited by Dorothy Sisk. Two issues are currently in press, including some twelve articles, featuring, among others: "Ten Lessons on the Development of the Gifted and Talented in Japan," by E. P. Torrance; "We're Thinking Gifted," by Edna McMillan; "The Brightest in China," by Bess Tittle; "Classroom of the Future," by Tudor Rickards and Jennie Sykes; "Work and Research on Gifted Children in Herefordshire," by Frieda Painter; "Reflections on Educating Teachers for the Gifted," by Bruce Shore; "Developing Gifted Children in Relation to Their Needs and Those of Their Countries," by Abdallah Solomin, and "A Curriculum for Teaching Creative Thinking," by Jon Wiles and Joseph Bondi. Each issue will contain about 175 pages.

The editorial committee includes Jacob Getzels (USA), Warren Lett (Australia), Frieda Painter (UK), Philip Vernon (Canada), Wilhelm Wiczerkowski (Germany), and Dr. Sisk. Articles and suggestions of authors should be sent to Dorothy Sisk, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL 33620

Gifted International is included in the membership fee in the Council. Copies may also be ordered from Trillium Press, P.O. Box 921, New York, NY 10159, at \$6. Dr. Tom Kemnitz, proprietor of Trillium Press, has been good enough to fund the first issue.

Gifted International replaces *GATE* as the official Journal of the Council. Three volumes of *GATE* have been published by Levcho Zdravchev and Azaria Polikarov in Bulgaria and may be ordered from Trillium Press at \$6 US each. The Council is indebted to them and to the Bulgarian Ministry of Education for their contribution. *GATE* will continue to publish as an independent journal.

MANILA, 1983

Manila will be the scene of the Fifth World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children, the Executive Committee having accepted the offer of Reading Education, Inc., as endorsed by the Philippine Ministry of Education. The Conference is scheduled August 2 to 5, 1983, with Dr. Aurora Roldan as the Conference Coordinator. *Now is the time for members to communicate with Dr. Roldan (Rm. 213, PCI Bank Arcade, Green Hills 3113, Metro Manila, Philippines) suggesting major speakers, themes, seminars and general conference details.*

The first week in August, 1985, will find the World Council in Hamburg. The Executive Committee accepted a bid from Wilhelm Wiczekowski of the University of Hamburg,

HAMBURG, 1985

transmitted by Klaus Urban of the University of Hannover who will be collaborating with him. Communications concerning the 1985 Conference may be sent to either individual.

As a world organization, the Council seeks to sponsor its biennial conferences successively in different parts of the globe. These two meetings will be the first in the Far East and on the European Continent and should facilitate attendance by persons in those parts of the world who could not attend previous conferences.

Institutions and organizations committed to education of the gifted in the Western Hemisphere, meanwhile, are encouraged to submit proposals for regional/international conferences to be held in 1982 and/or 1984.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To: Milton J. Gold, Executive Secretary, World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, Box 218, Teachers College, New York, NY 10027

I enclose a check for 30 US dollars to cover my subscription to the World Council for the Biennium ending June 30, 1983. Fee includes issues of *Gifted International* (Journal of the Council) and *World Gifted* (newsletter).

Name (printed or typed) _____

Occupation and title: _____

Address _____

____ Renewal; ____ New Membership



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