## **province**

Barbara Ward, author of Spaceship Earth talks about human 🔜 settlements





Canada's billion-dollar nuclear reactor pro-

Saturday, March 27, 1976 \*\*\*

gram at home and the government's nuclear export policy are both 'folly'. The lethal consequences can't be controlled.

SNS: We're seeing most of these changes in the developed world. Does the developed world have anything at all to say to the developing world about how people should live in settle-

where it? Proper about the in a cube Ward: Not much, no. [ don't think so. Except as the child said. I would rath-er be a warring than an example. I would very much have liked to have been able to go to China to see wheth-er, in fact, so much of this pushing back to the provinces really works. What is obvious is that it always has been a very disciplined society with a very high degree of communatism.

For us, I want a lot of people with private property. I don't want it all concentrated. I want the defence of tiberty to be in the hands of millions of householders. I would like the owner ship of industry to be about millions of people who own shares. I want a very small state sector, a very large co-operative sector.

people who own sames. I want a very small state sector, a very large co-operative sector. In each own same sector, a server large co-operative sector. In each own same sector sector sector bloody bead off if I want to I don't give a damon if I have to buy a smaller car. There's another thing. I do not be-lieve that we have the right, casually and aimost without thought. to kill off 90,000 people a year in Europe and America because we don't separat-beavy traffic from ordinary traffic and we allow cars to go at 70 miles an hour. By God, if people were dying from cholera at that rate we'd be up in arms, We're not. We're bloody indi-cense, then why should it last? SNS: But what is Habitat going to do for the builtions of poor in the Third Ward. I hove Habitat can been he.

for the billions of poor in the Third World? Wardd: I bope Habitat can begn to get across the immense importance of an agricultural strategy in the de-veloped settlements. I hope that it can get across the prime need to give peo-pie the measo is self help so they can house themselves. The last thing you house themselves. The last thing you were solver immates is reinforced con-were solvers.

blues tuennasives. Iner last timing you want in hot climates is reinforced con-creasions. This is my prayer, my hope, my drems... That we can get governments to agree on an interna-tional program for clean water for everyone by 1980. I justhad a year of dysentery and when 1 think that 60 per cent of the buman race have it off and drems. Clean water would do more than any other single thing to sweeten our lives and our imaginations. It Habitat did nothing but that, you would have erased perhaps 30 per cent of the most disperate evits of the human race. Notice, inthelaststof conferences, we have been talking about real

Notce: intrelastistoi conterences, we have been talking about real things, like food, sheller and water. New economic orders are terribly ab-stract for people to grasp and I think you can get a beonie through means somma pour and the pone through means somma stockhovier doesn't like the idea of dead children. SNS: And does the commuting

SNS: And does the commuting stockbroker realize there's going to be twice as many of these manual scare?

# My prayer, my hope, my dreams

British economist, writer and social crusoder Barbara Ward Lody Jackson, will be lecturing across Conodo for the next threas weeks on the topic of humon settlements, the theme of the United Nations conference Habitat, which opens in Vancouvar on Moy 31. Miss Word was interviewed in London tost week by Southam News Service correspondent PETER CALANALA With wird imagery, spiced with pungent, lively longuage, Barbaro Ward provides new thoughts on the pressing problems of our age and future. She is due to speak in Vancourse on April 20.

## S: Your lectures are keyed to the

Ward: 'Im talking rather more roadly about Habitat-the theme of ward: 'Im talking rather more broady about Habitat-ibe theme of the inner and the outer limits...the inner limit of human dignity and a basic standard of living for all dits Naurice Strong's ideal and the outer limits of what our poortitide planet can actually take in the way of resource exhaustion and ecological strain and then pointing out that the least con-serving element in our way of life is This in where most of the waste and the strain and the conflict and the con-forntation come. If you're going to have any hope of dealing with these two limits theme and table to going to think in new ways about your cities. The's my theme and Habitat is so important because it is the place where some of these questions can come up. SNS: Is Habitat just about cities?

SNS: Is Habitat just about cities?

SNS: Is Hahnta just about cities? Ward: No. Habitat is about all the processes that make cities. At the mo-ment, in the Third World in particular, there Is bias overwhelming citve to the planade decommis and in China where there's a real effort being made to get away from the 102030 million city, and has nee if you china has a better ing is one of the critical problems. SNS: But is it possible to stop people livmgin cities?



Ward. We've never tried. We've never tried to say there are alternative urban centre to go to. Some of the most successful countries from an urban point of view-because of a federal system of their geography tike Switzerland or West Germany-have. n'treally got a 10 million city. Theyre amaller and theyr he having more man-ageable urban problems. In the United States, a very interest-ing thing is happening-a move out from the older centres altogether, the move of population from the north-east and the central area down into the

from the older centres altogether, the move of population from the morth-asst and the central area down into the south-west. They're abandoning the USE: Is they rebard address of the south-west. They're abandoning the south-west of the south and the south south and the cost that I boys will come right through Vancouver. The south the 10 million city. The south the south the south the south the south of south the south the south the south of south the south the south and the south and the community. Don't let south cover the south the south of south and the south the south the south and the south and the south and the south the south of south and the south the south the south and the south and the south the south the south and the south and the south and the s

and convention hails put in. Keep a mix. Also keep continuity, because if you take away all of your neighbor's land-marks. be goes literally doity, you know. An awful lo of people go mad if you just wipe their neighborhood out and give them a new housing area. Work hard in your centre city and then try in your spraw to a triculate centres of employment and again of community. We've torn things to pieces to put in great big bighways. Let's clear things up and put in parks and farms and market gardens. Let's get back to food. We're going to be jolly houzry in 30 years time if we're

Let's try to do, in a sense, what the Chinese apparently tried to do at Shanghai--revive the inner city, then have an agricultural belt and then fur-

The problem with what the do is they do it through coer-Chi

Chicese do is they no it turnage use cion. Ward: Listen, you're bloody well concred if you haven't got a job in Brit-ain. Don't leta bid ourselves, the way in the draw and the second second bar the second second second second to the second second second second the second second second second second the second second second second the second second second second second test second second second second second test second second second second second second second test second second second second second second second test second second second second second second second second test second second second second second second second second second test second seco

pended upon your Lord Greys, your Lord Shaftesburys, your Disraelis and it's no different now. If you get any absolutely bloody-minded owning class, as you have in Spain, you get communism and why not? Why are you worse off? SNS: You can't think in the de-

veloped world today that there's a bloody-minded middle class who are very attached to property? Ward: Very mixed. You've got more and more people taking the line that

Ward: Very mixed. You've got more and more people taking the line that you've got to encourage every range of society to own their houses, to have the feeling that they are people of proper-ly. This is the big change everywhere. In Western Europe, there's a good data idea that you don't have municipal ten-ants, that you don't have municipal ton. On the contrary, you encourage people to turn their rents into mort gages.

people gages. SNS: Why?

Varci: A practical reason. They take much better care. And that's put a fact. Interesting enough, in the so-cialist countries, home ownership in quite bigh and think for the same reason. SNS: I think you'll find in Canada that many people are bootle towards the idea of lossing what they consider the privileges. The prerogatives, of Ward: That's exactly how Marie Antonette felt. I myself think that here is enough of the Humphry-John-son Great Society feel for this not to e dead end. The shere brutality of the crisis in New York makes people bean to think.

This in New York makes people search to blink. Three's another point. So many of the new ideas seem to be coursaged by the potential shortage of energy and by the possible vastly increased costs of keeping our old patterns which depend, essentially, upon the private car. SINS: Does what's happened to New York mean that we should avoid at all costs creating any more cities of many millions? Ward: Yes, but l'm none too sure whether we know enough yet about foor to to doit.



It's conceivable that taking a look at fuel and taking a look at the systems we've developed, we shall come at our cities, perhaps through the outer limits, rather than through the inner

limits, rather than through the inner limits. Not because people are burning them down but because her/re too expensive to keep up. What will be interesting in the 21st entry: is whether if you're not producing food at top output per acte-whether people will come and say: "I think well bave it." SNS: Even if Canada gets to, say, three per cent of its GNP for foreign di, is it still going to be possible by the year 2025 to have outy 50 million people in a councity that will support 500 million?

Ward: It very much depends on what happens elsewhere. It's certainly entirely in the interests of the de-veloped world to basten in every possi-ble way the development of the other continents. No one who has been

brought up in Latin America would want to go to the Canadian North if they could avoid it. Just like no one would want to go to Siberia, including the Russians.

You cannot exclude the possibility

The Restand. Two cancel scylude the possibility that people will go in for this kind of movement. All I'm saying is that the meanine you practise a bit of jus-tions and creative development ow. SNS: Almost everything you any hadcates the traditional economic cal-culations are unailisfactory. The second second second cal-culations are unailisfactory. The second second second second second secon



Well the movement. Well the moment energy becomes something you've got to watch because it's costly, be begins to make a differ-ent calculation. He then hires a mini-bus with seven of his friends and his cost effectiveness goes up by some-thing like three or four bundred per

do it. That's how we arrange choice. But here you come against another principle which is: There are some things we don't let anyone buy. SNS: Is one of them going to be

SNS: Is one of them going to be land? Ward: They can own it but they can't seel it. You can have secure pri-vate ownership as long as the sale is done through a land commission. Everyone basther right touse, which is "free," but the community have the right to control, which is "hold."

"free," but the community have the right to control, which is "hold." I would have a land commission ea-tirely staffed by retired Supreme Court judges. I'd like Judge Sirica looking after my land. That would mean an absolute right to ownland but when you sell i, you sell i through a community land board. That seems to be just. I don't see why any unearred increment should go to an individual. As long as you've got unlimited re-sources, unlimited petrol, very few pople-six per cent of the world's in-orem--you can afford yourself quite a few millionaires. But it gets more dif-ficult as the pressures get lighter. The is no non-poth in can see in the lines are from to the world's in-pose sayone need more than 40,000 a year to be happy or that... go stew

Til tell you something else. Why does anyone need more than \$40,000 a year to be happy? For god's sake if you can't be happy on that . .go stew your head. SNS: Why does the socialist prime minister of Britain have three houses of his own plus two government homes?

Ward: Yes, yes, I know. Wby does Mr. Brezhnev bave 10 cars? SNS? Then, it isn't a matter of ideol-

SNS? Then, it isn't a matter of ideol-of?. Ward: No, no, it's profund social morality, We one at a new commun-ye thic, because the resources are going to be scare. The resources that are absolutely unimited are mind and beart and spirit and intelligence and knowledge and sharing of ideas. Ideas are the only things that grow by being ex-changed. changed



What I would like to put across, most of all, is that this isn't very fearsome, We're not a very happy people. Materi-al has not given us jyouaness. No one would say we were anything in many ways but bloody bores. I mean, honess Uugh. There is something quite au courant about our society and I'm not surprised that poor oldSolthenistyn got a bell of a shock. He probably found that in many ways the concentration camps were more moral.

Behind the idea of being thrity, being more conserving, caring for your things, mending things, there's the possibility of an ethic we only lost about 100 years ago. Don't you think it's possible that this violent consumerism might just be an abbra-tion?

consumerism might just be an abbra-tion? SNS: So will the new morality be brought on because the old morality gets priced out of existence? Ward: Probably. The alsosi-on acci-doctome nergy. If goessible. Mana source of making burdings from the in-broad of making burdings from the in-tess singheavill from the source of the source of the source of making burdings from the source of the source of making burdings from the source of the source of making burdings for the source of the sour

way of making hydrogen fuel, in which But I think people are talking about restoring public transport in a new way because they didn't notice it had gone. It's interesting that all the French new towns have all got very so plaisticated public transport. I think taxing cars in the centre cities will able to the plain the source of the source on a charter information to the source of the source on a charter information to the source of the source target of the source of the s come or else compeling people to dou-ble up. They're doing that in San Fran-cisco already. If you come across the bridge from Oakland with four in a car you pay no toll and the toll goes steadi-ly up, according to the lack of num-bers.

Ward: I think it's the only thing he does realize, also, He doesn't realize that things can be done about it. He does use it a little as an argument for bopelesmest. In fact you do get this nasty lifebat theory-stave the sphe-did people which is us, and it the the rest go long. But there san't any ocean. Buyyoon is in the boat, there's the factor. illacy. SNS: It's particularly ironic, consid-

Everyon is in the book, there is the falley. SNS: It's particularly ironic, consid-ering your views about fission reac-tors, that you're lecturing in a nation which bas a billion dollar nuclear pro-greet the world. Ward: Yes, South Kores, It will be Hi Anion next. I don't care, they wort this it but it's a basic reality that it's folly. You can't control the conse-quences and they're lethal. As far as you capecily fast breeders out, aspecially fast breeders. There are alternatives when you think that it's not an they're lethal. As far as you concerned, all fission reactors are word and the onergy generated and the senergy secretad and the senergy secretad and the they are that the secret of the spirit and likerty is likerly with spirit and likerty is likerly of the spirit and likerty is likerly with a spirit and likerly is likerly and fay oner, you must have a mind durit property hase. But I do not think that level a car thials to pieces every year; i do not black med a refrigerator that cannot be prepined; I do not think I need a car thials to pieces every year; i do not black med a refrigerator that cannot be even you freedom because it hinds you to things. And thinginess is not bistor.—It's the exact oppose. *Mabilat Secretariat Vancouver* 

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World population (3.89 bil.) is expected to double by 2,000 AD. More and more people are crowding into the cities.

Ward: And it would cost less, if you take the single-man commuter, they reckon in New York City he gets about six per cent of bis energy in useful revenues.

cent. SNS: But what price do you put on individual choice, if I want to live in the middle of Montreal and drive a car and am willing to pay the real cost of

ward: Then only the very rich could



THE BURSTING CITIES

1970: 6

THE SUPER CITIES (From 7m.)

1950: 2

ORK 5.8m 2000 NEW

1960 wo-thirds of 1960 world population (3 billion) were rail areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas areas and one-third in cities. By the year 2,000 areas ar