

Native Intelligence: A column by Jack D. Forbes

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President Bill Clinton is claiming victory in his efforts to have the North American Free Trade Agreement passed by the U.S. Congress. But in reality he has lost. How?

The U.S. Constitution absolutely requires that any treaty obtain a 2/3 affirmative vote in the U.S. Senate. That means that NAFTA had to get 68 votes. But NAFTA got only 61! So NAFTA is not law!

Bill Clinton took an oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution, as do U.S. Senators, and all are bound by its provisions. Of course, Clinton's people claim that NAFTA is simply an "agreement" and not a treaty, but that is just semantic trickery. A formal agreement between sovereign states (nations) is a treaty. That's what the word treaty means. You can call such an agreement a "declaration," a "convention," or whatever you want, but if it is a formal agreement between sovereigns it is always a treaty and the U.S. Constitution requires a 2/3 vote for ratification. Sixty-eight votes, not 61!

The genocide treaty was called the "Genocide Convention", but it required a 2/3 vote in the Senate to pass.

We know that ex-President George Bush and his negotiators designed NAFTA to be a treaty because NAFTA purports to be able to nullify the laws of the United States, of the fifty states, and of local governments if they conflict with the provisions of NAFTA. This means that NAFTA becomes a part of U.S. law, part of the "supreme law of the land."

But according to the U.S. Constitution, only a treaty ratified by a yes vote of 2/3 of the U.S. Senate can become part of U.S. law. A so-called "agreement", whatever that might be, can have no legal

force within the United States.

The House and Senate, by simple majority vote, cannot pass a law which nullifies state and local laws and ordinances, except in certain subject areas where the Constitution grants the federal government supremacy (as in foreign affairs, defense, and the like). Thus NAFTA as a simple law of the Senate and House cannot achieve its objectives. Only as a treaty ratified by 2/3 of the senators with a yes vote can NAFTA achieve its objectives of nullifying our federal system of government.

The newspapers tell us that NAFTA has won. Their reporters apparently don't read the Constitution. What can we do?

Obviously some organization, state government, city, tribe or a combination of the above must go into court to have NAFTA declared inoperative, or obtain a writ against its being implemented in January 1994. Organized labor should take the lead, but state, provincial, local and tribal governments should be equally concerned about the threatened loss of the powers of self-government posed by NAFTA.

Tribes and some territories should also note that NAFTA does not appear to refer to their legal existence. Native governments as well as the territories of Guam, Samoa and the Virgin Islands are not included in NAFTA except under the umbrella term of "local governments or as simply part of the "customs territory" of the U.S. Of course, tribal and territorial governments are not "local".

Thus it is very important that tribal and territorial governments and the Associated Free State of Puerto Rico seek to have the courts declare NAFTA to be inoperative within their territories without the specific consent of their governing bodies.

If this is not done, tribes take the risk of allowing themselves to be categorized simply as "local" governments, and of having their sovereign powers drastically diminished. (States, provinces and territories also face the same loss of self-government, of course).

In addition, tribal and band governments should pass resolutions declaring that NAFTA shall be without effect within their territories and on any lands to which they possess a claim (e.g., the Black Hills).

One objective might well be to force the U.S., Canadian and Mexican governments to agree to a renegotiation of NAFTA in which all international agreements relating to the rights of indigenous peoples, women, children, ethnic minorities and labor can be incorporated into the treaty. Moreover, one might wish to demand that any new NAFTA be accompanied by a North American Parliament with elected delegates, including representation for tribes and indigenous communities.

After all, NAFTA is supposed to be patterned after the European Economic Community, but the EEC also has the European Parliament. NAFTA is now to be run by people who are not elected but simply appointed. That is a big difference to think about!

But of course, election means nothing either unless indigenous governments, women and ethnic minorities are guaranteed representation. In any case, maybe people should think about these options and not give up.

Professor Jack D. Forbes, Powhatan-Delaware, is the author of Columbus and Other Cannibals, Africans and Native Americans and other books.

Pembroke Kiwanis Report

by Ken Johnson

The weekly meeting was held at the Town and Country Restaurant with President Buddy Bell presiding. Pres. Bell presented Lt. Gov. Steve Riggio of the Lumberton Kiwanis Club. "The Carolinas District has funded and developed an educational program designed to help educate young children ages 5 and younger about the dangers they encounter daily. Accidents are killing our children more than diseases. We have developed a coloring work book to assist our children more than diseases. We have developed a coloring work book to assist our children to become aware of these dangers. And to help adults to get across to children these risks. Even riding their tricycles, play in their yards rather than the streets. They can color these little boys and girls in observing safe play practices. Stop, be sure no cars are coming before crossing the street. Always stop at a red light. Buckle up your seat belt. Hold the railing in climbing stairs. Don't run, walk. If smoke is in your room, crawl out. If you catch on fire, stop, drop and roll to put it out. Always pick up toys, so you won't fall.

Let a grown up help take your bath. Stop, wait for a grown up if you climb. Only put things in your mouth you know are safe to eat or drink. The booklet includes immunization charts and telephone numbers for police, fire, ambulance, poison control center, doctor, mom at work, father at work and neighbors. These booklets are available for all children from Pembroke Kiwanis. Just call Buddy Bell. Invocation, Vardell Swert, Song, by Lowry; Reporter Ken Johnson.

Your Bible And You

By Daniel Davis



Is your Christian experience more like a bubbling brook or a placid lake? Perhaps you have never thought of your relationship to Christ in this manner, but why not spend a few minutes asking yourself about it?

Probably the most well known example of the "bubbling brook" Christians are the Jesus people of the seventies! Their enthusiasm for their Lord was overwhelming. You may recall when Jesus buttons, bumper stickers, and posters were everywhere. Do you remember the reaction in your church when young people in hippie dress dropped by just to say "God Loves You?" People talked about their God in glowing tones punctuating every conversation with "Praise the Lord" and "Glory to God." Can you recall the excitement, the fervor, the intensity? What an example of the "bubbling brook" Christian!

Perhaps you know some "placid lake" Christians. Those whose relationship with Jesus goes deep, whose presence in the church help to stabilize the congregation. The "placid lake" Christians are the ones that we might turn to when life deals a mighty blow and we stagger because of it. These precious warriors are well grounded in the faith. They have come through some hard times, weathered attacks from the Devil and held fast to

their belief in the Almighty! Their calm exterior may lead some to think they are spiritually dead, but there is power in direct relationship to the depth of their experience with Jesus!

Which type of experience do you have with the Lord, bubbling brook or placid lake? Is your Christian life filled with excitement and wonder, or does your God speak to you in the quietude of a peaceful morning? We need both kinds of Christians in our church families. Each fill different needs of the body of Christ. Each reach out to a dying world in a different way, but each gain their power from the Source - Jesus Christ!

Perhaps we each need a little of both the "bubbling brook" and the "placid lake" in our own relationship with Jesus. If we only have a "bubbling brook" experience it may be that the fierce winds of cynicism could blow our shallow waters out of the banks and change the course our stream takes. If we only have a "placid lake" experience it may be that become stagnant and dormant, neglecting to take in new promises of life from the Redeemer's lips. Bubbling brook or placid lake. Both are good, both needed. Praise God for His presence in your life and never take it for granted! Jesus is coming soon and we must prepare!

Demery - Locklear Wedding to be held



The family of Rev. Margaret Faye Demery of Pembroke and Western Locklear of Shannon, NC, announce their upcoming marriage on Saturday, March 19th, 1994 at 3:00 p.m. The ceremony will take place at the Pembroke Church of God, Pembroke, North Carolina. The public is invited.

Pembroke State's Class of '54 Was a Pivotal Class in School History

Thirteen members of the 1954 Pembroke State College 1954 graduating class of 28 members gathered at what is now Pembroke State University during homecoming on Feb. 26 and reminisced about how their class was such a pivotal one in school history.

The reason: In 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court passed a law desegregating all public institutions. What had been started as an all Indian school here was then to open its doors to all races.

However, Pembroke State College had taken steps to do that before the Supreme Court ruling.

At the Class of '54 reunion, Adeline Lowry Maynor, who resides in Lumberton, told how Christian White of that class "was the first non-Indian student to graduate from Pembroke State College", meaning this white student preceded the Supreme Court mandate.

White was really a minister who at the time pastored the First United Methodist Church of Pembroke, but had not earned his college degree. Maynor said she thinks he now lives in Burlington.

The other class of '54 members said "there was no problem as far as we were concerned about white students beginning to enroll." They said several white wives of professors took classes. "It was no big deal with us," commented Adeline Lowry Maynor.

President of the college then was Dr. Ralph Wellons, a former missionary to India. "I think he believed he was still doing mission work with us," smiled one class member. Wellons also taught philosophy and was described at the reunion as "a builder" of the school.

White students were allowed to enroll, but the Class of '54 members said the campaign to actively recruit white students didn't really begin until Dr. Walter Gale became college president in '56.

The PSC enrollment in the spring of '54 was 142. In contrast, the enrollment this academic year at Pembroke State University is 3,045 with approximately 63 percent being white students, 24 percent Indian, and 11 percent Black. The number of

administrators and faculty members totaled 22 in 1954.

Officers of the Class of '54, all of whom were present at the reunion, were: President of the student council--Martin Lowry; President of the Senior Class--Delton Ray Locklear (who organized the reunion), Vice President of the Senior Class--Erylle Ransom, and Secretary-Treasurer of the Senior Class--Mabel Moore Cummings. Martin Lowry was also editor of The Indianhead, Grace Dial Locklear was associate editor, and Erylle Ransom was business manager. All still live in Pembroke except for Martin Lowry, who resided in Glen Burnie, Md., and Cummings, whose address is Maxton.

One of the class members was Leslie Locklear of Pembroke, who said he "was the first athlete recruited, having my room paid for two years." A member of the PSU Athletic Hall of Fame, Locklear played baseball, basketball and football. As a baseball infielder, he was described by PSU Chancellor Joseph Oxendine as "having an arm stronger than that of Phil Rizzuto" of the New York Yankees, who has just been chosen to the baseball Hall of Fame. "His arm would have put Rizzuto's to shame," said Oxendine.

Beltus Smawley, a graduate of Appalachian State University, headed the physical education program and was a fine coach said Delton Ray Locklear. The Braves' athletic teams played the Appalachian Jayvees plus Campbell, Elon, Pfeiffer, Wingate, Louisburg, Newberry, and several service teams.

"The only trouble we had was getting food," inserted one class member, referring to how Indians were not allowed in most white eating places in that segregation era.

On a happier note, the class reminisced about "Sadie Hawkins Day" being held on the campus each fall with the girls chasing the boys, and how everyone gathered after lunch to sit on a white bench built around a pine tree near Old Main. "Everyone knew everyone else. We were one big happy family," the class members agreed.

Chancellor Oxendine brought to the reunion some recorded music of

the PSU alma mater, "Hail to PSU," and four members of the Class of '54 joined to sing it. They had formed what they claimed to be the first quartet to sing the alma mater when the song was first written by Ira Pate Lowry and his wife Reba, both of whom are now deceased. Making up the quartet were Erylle Ransom, Grace Dial Locklear, Adrene Carter Locklear, and Martin Lowry.

"It is good to have someone to sing the alma mater and sing it right," smiled the chancellor, who told the Class of '54: "It is good to have you here. I want to encourage you to keep the tie to PSU and the tie to one another. It makes no difference what year you graduated from PSU. We still feel this is the tie that binds us together regardless of how old we are. The University is proud of you, and we want you to continue to be proud of the University. It is good to have you back on campus, and I hope you have a good day."

As one looks through the Class of '54 yearbook, an aerial picture of the campus in those days stands out. The only brick classroom or administrative buildings were Old Main, Sampson Hall, the old gym, Moore Hall, and Locklear Hall. The growth since then has been phenomenal, as one person described it.

Prices have changed, too. A member of that class told how she and others could "go across to where the Exxon station is now located and buy a baloney sandwich, Pepsi, and piece of cake--all for a quarter."

There have been other changes--like the college's mandatory chapel. "We all had assigned seats in the auditorium in Old Main. And Berteen Prine (secretary to the president) and Inez Freeman (bookkeeper) would sit in the balcony and check to make sure we were all present", one class member said.

The class of '54 had many students of different ages because several had been in the service and others had resumed their studies from high school days. Of the 28 in the class, five are deceased. But of the 13 who gathered here Feb. 26, there was great joy as they recalled incidents of "those good old days."



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The Class of '54 at its 40th reunion at Pembroke State University: Left to right, front row-- Adrene Carter Locklear, Grace Dial Locklear, Lorraine C. Maynor, Adeline Lowry Maynor, Lois M. Lowry, Mabel Moore Cummings, Sally M. Brooks; back row-- Sanford Locklear, Leslie Locklear, James C. Dial, Martin L. Lowry, Erylle R. Ransom, and Delton Ray Locklear. All now reside in Pembroke except for Adeline Lowry Maynor, who resides in Lumberton; Mabel Moore Cummings lives in Maxton; and Martin Lowry, lives in Glen Burnie, Md.