

has long been at the fore on matters of hemispheric trade. I remember discussing a Western hemisphere free trade area with Ambassador Valdez 15 years ago. In matters of trade in the Western Hemisphere, Ambassador Valdez is nothing short of visionary. I urge my colleagues to take interest in the following article.

[From the Washington Times, Dec. 9, 1994]
ABELARDO VALDEZ

Twenty seven years ago, as a young military aide, I accompanied Lyndon Johnson to the first summit of the presidents of the Americas at Punte del Este, Uruguay. That summit's primary goal was to support the beginning of trade liberalization among the Latin American countries. The second summit of the Americas begins in Miami today, with the primary goals of expanded free trade, strengthening democracy and advancing economic and social development throughout the Western hemisphere.

In the quarter-century between these two historic events, our hemispheric neighborhood and the world have changed dramatically, and the small seed planted at Punta del Este is blossoming into a hemispheric free trade area, and, I predict, into a future Common Market of the Americas. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has set the stage.

The Miami Summit is a critical step in creating a Western Hemisphere Free Trade Area (WHFTA). The U.S., Canadian and Latin American governments realize that this summit is not only a historic but a watershed event for expanding hemispheric free trade.

the role of the United States will be pivotal, and the U.S. Congress is clearly divided on whether to grant the president the indispensable "fast track" trade negotiating authority.

It behooves us then to state why the United States, in partnership with Canada and Latin America, should pursue this ambitious goal of creating a WHFTA within the next decade. The NAFTA experience teaches us never to take for granted that a good idea will automatically pass Congress or that people beyond the Capital Beltway are properly informed about the issue.

So, first let us examine both the potential U.S. benefits of hemispheric free trade and why a trade partnership with Latin America now is feasible.

Latin America is undergoing dramatic economic policy transformation. The International Monetary Fund predicts higher economic growth for the region than any other over the next decade—about 6 percent per year. These changes, ongoing for several years, have included privatizing economies and opening markets to foreign trade and investment. Latin leaders are eager to maximize economic benefits, such as through increased competitiveness and investment, through a hemispheric free trade pact.

Moreover, Latin American countries have greatly expanded democracy over this same period. Latin leaders perceive that increased economic growth and opportunity is the best catalyst for social progress and the best way to strengthen democracy.

Today, the United States accounts for about 60 percent of the total goods imported by Latin America and the Caribbean, a region with a growing population of 460 million. In 1993, there was \$141 billion in trade between the United States and Latin America.

By the end of the '90s, the Western Hemisphere is expected to account for nearly \$200 billion in U.S. exports—considerably more than the United States sells to all Europe plus Russia and more than it exports to

Eastern and Southern Asia combined. Already, 37 percent of U.S. exports go to Western Hemisphere nations. The U.S. sells as much to Brazil as to China, more to Venezuela than to Russia, and more to Ecuador than Hungary and Poland combined. Our exports to Latin America are growing at 3 times the global rate.

By next year, the Andean Pact countries are expected to set a common external tariff no greater than 20 percent. As a result, they will become one of our 12 largest markets, accounting for \$10 billion in U.S. exports. The United States sells more to the pact's 95 million people than to China's 1.2 billion people.

MERCOSUR, the common market established by Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, has agreed to eliminate all non-tariff barriers affecting regional trade.

NAFTA in its first 11 months of existence already has proven that free trade produces strong positive benefits. U.S. exports to Mexico have expanded by more than 17 percent, and Mexico's exports to the United States grew by 20 percent. If this continues, Mexico will displace Japan as our second-largest world market by year's end.

Yet, despite the potential great benefits, there is strong congressional reluctance to move on the Western Hemisphere Free Trade initiative. This also was the reason the Clinton administration was forced to withdraw fast-track negotiating authority from the GATT bill passed by Congress last week.

The bottom line is that those who are for a Western Hemisphere agreement had better start a strong effort now to ensure that Congress gets behind the agreement and passes fast-track.

TRIBUTE TO MR. HENRY H. BROWN, AN OUTSTANDING BUSINESS, CIVIC, AND EDUCATIONAL LEADER

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 1995

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, it is rare for one to meet a truly outstanding individual and even more rare to get to know such a person. It has been my privilege and pleasure to have had such an experience in the person of Henry H. Brown, businessman, civic leader and educator par excellence.

Last January, Henry Brown officially retired from the Anheuser-Busch Companies after a career spanning 35 years during which he rose from sales representative to senior vice-president for Marketing Development and Affairs.

As a corporate executive, he developed innovative marketing strategies which were extremely effective and productive.

One such program is Budweiser's Great Kings and Queens of Africa which has brought the richness of the ancestral history of African-Americans to millions since 1975.

Another was the Budweiser Community Health Mobile which provided free health screening in communities where the company marketed its products.

His contributions and leadership were also evident in the Chiefs I and Chiefs II program which saluted the Nation's top law enforcement officers of African-American heritage and the first Lou Rawls Parade of Stars telethon which benefited the 41 United Negro College Fund institutions.

In the course of his rise to prominence with the world's largest brewer, Henry Brown never forgot the importance of giving something back to the community which nurtured and sustained him through the years. Despite the rigors and demands of ever increasing levels of responsibility, he found the time and energy to develop what may be termed a career in community service.

Mr. Brown's extensive involvement in non-profit community groups include serving as part chairman of the National Business Policy Review Council, past imperial potentate of the Prince Hall Shriners, trustee for the Arthritis Foundation, the Jesse Owens Foundation, the NAACP Board, the Kennedy Center National Orchestra Board, the American Marketing Association, the Public Relations Society of America, the Congressional Black Caucus Corporate Advisory Council, and numerous other organizations including Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity. He has also served as adjunct professor at Howard University and guest lecturer at numerous institutions across the Nation.

Henry Brown's efforts have earned for him the respect and admiration of citizens and organizations in every sector of this country. In addition, to receiving honorary doctoral degrees from St. Paul's College and his alma matter, Texas Southern University, he is the recipient of numerous awards and citations from the National Urban League, the NAACP, the National Newspaper Publishers, the Elks Grand Lodge, the Prince Hall Shriners, the Continental Societies, Inc., the American Cancer Society, the National Medical Association, the United Negro College Fund, and the Jesse Owens Foundation, to mention a few.

This outstanding professional and community leader has left an indelible imprint on the lives of those whom he has been privileged to touch and his contributions shall live on through their efforts in countless pursuits across this vast land.

A TRIBUTE TO ED MADIGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Edward R. Madigan, former Secretary of Agriculture under President Bush and long time U.S. Representative from Illinois' 15th Congressional District. Although Mr. Madigan was undergoing aggressive anticancer treatment at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, IL, he died on December 7, 1994 from complications related to lung cancer. He was 58 years old.

When Mr. Madigan was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1972, he told a newspaper reporter that he had but one goal: "I have the ambition to be an influential member of Congress and to use that influence to bring credit to myself and to help people." During his 18 year tenure in Congress, Mr. Madigan skillfully and more than adequately fulfilled his goal. He protected the interests of his constituents in rural Illinois through his ranking member status on the House Agriculture Committee and the House Committee