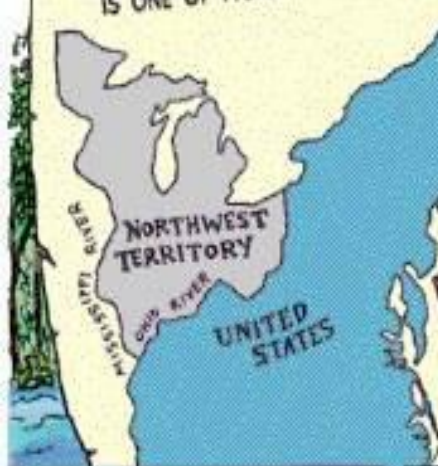


WHAT WAS

The Northwest Ordinance of 1787

FOR SEVEN YEARS THE 13 AMERICAN STATES HAVE A GOVERNMENT ORGANIZED BY THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION — BUT THE STATES DON'T WORK TOGETHER. THE NATIONAL CONGRESS IS WEAK AND LOW ON MONEY. THE NORTHWEST ORDINANCE IS ONE OF ITS FEW SUCCESSES. THE ORDINANCE (LAW) PROMISES TO SETTLERS:



FREEDOM OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP

RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL FOR ANYONE ACCUSED OF A CRIME

NO CRUEL OR UNUSUAL PUNISHMENTS FOR A CRIME

NO SLAVERY IN THIS TERRITORY

THE ORDINANCE ALSO DESCRIBES HOW TERRITORIES WILL BECOME OFFICIAL STATES...

MANY OF THESE IDEAS SHOW UP LATER IN THE BILL OF RIGHTS DRAFTED FOR THE NEW UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION (WHICH REPLACES THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION).

WHEN THE POPULATION OF THE AREA IS JUST A FEW SETTLERS, THEIR GOVERNMENT IS:

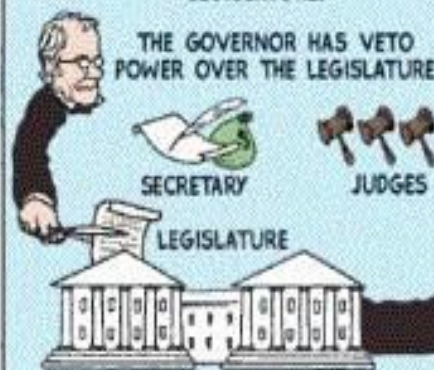


A GOVERNOR APPOINTED BY CONGRESS

A SECRETARY APPOINTED BY CONGRESS

THREE JUDGES APPOINTED BY CONGRESS

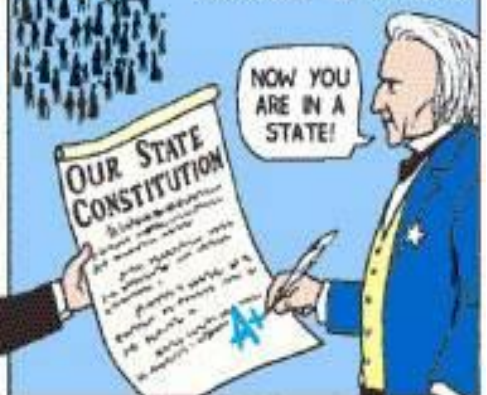
WHEN THE POPULATION HAS 5,000 FREE MEN, THOSE MEN MAY ELECT A TWO-PART LEGISLATURE.



THE GOVERNOR HAS VETO POWER OVER THE LEGISLATURE

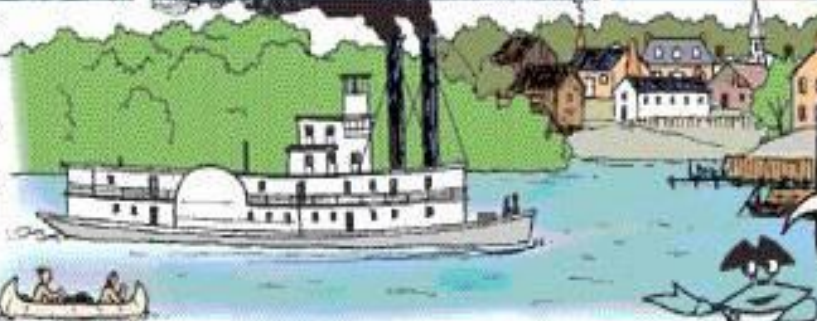
LEGISLATURE

WHEN THE AREA HAS 60,000 FREE PEOPLE, THE LEGISLATURE CAN WRITE A STATE CONSTITUTION FOR CONGRESS TO APPROVE.



NOW YOU ARE IN A STATE!

IN 1803, OHIO IS THE FIRST STATE CREATED USING THESE RULES. FIVE OTHER STATES ARE LATER FORMED FROM THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY ABOVE THE OHIO RIVER: INDIANA, ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, WISCONSIN, AND MINNESOTA.



SOON STEAMBOATS ARE CARRYING PEOPLE AND PRODUCTS UP AND DOWN THE OHIO RIVER WHERE ONLY INDIAN CANOES TRAVELED 100 YEARS BEFORE.

END