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Heppner **Gazette Times**

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Official Paper for Morrow County

Can It Happen Here? CINCLAIR LEWIS may have been O considered a pipe-dreamer by

many who read his "It Can't Happen

Just last Saturday Oregon Wool Growers association was notified by Harry Bridges, union organizer, that man from Portland when in the city any sacks of wool not marked show- the other day recalled that he was ing the wool to have been sheared on the road selling for a large meat by union shearers would not be packing company in the post-war handled by CIO longshoremen.

forces his point with wool growers, dollars a day for thirty days, as is to prevent similar action being prices went into a tail dive, he astaken against wheat growers? Is it serted. Called into conference with not possible, if present union tactics the district sales manager the Pacific are permitted, that very shortly Mr. Bridges and his ilk will be tell- present stocks were to be marked ing our wool and wheat growers how down fifty percent and that they many men they may hire, what were to quote the new prices to the hours they shall work and how much wages shall be paid?

No, certainly, we have all believed their stocks before the new prices such a thing could not happen here. were made public. In other words, But if the course of union organizers while the large meat packing conwithin industry may be taken as a cern was absorbing a tremendous criterion, we in the farming sections loss, and one which actually, rocked of the country may expect to see the foundations of the long estabjust such attempts. They are prob- lished business, the head of that ably foredoomed to failure for many business was determined not to make reasons, but it is time for agricul- the customers suffer from a situation ture to wake up. Our farmers are over which it itself had no control. lying with a strange bedfellow when they play into the hands of uncontrolled, unscrupulous labor organ- an unbiased source, at least unbiased izers.

Recommended to the close study it now has no connection with the of everyone is a resolution of the business. He was, however, in a fa-Polk county Pomona grange passed vorable position to know what that at a recent meeting. The resolution one large company did when busiurges remedial legislation defining ness was on the skids. labor disputes as only those bona fide disputes between an employer fully printed, current year book of and employees, and preventing pick- another large meat packing cometing and boycotting unless the con- pany. This company and the one troversy is an actual labor dispute. above referred to each has been

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all shearers is imminent. It is just a mand for livestock at Omaha and sample of the method of procedure of CIO which, belying its name-Committee for Industrial Organization-is attempting to bring all labor under one large union, the benefits of which to the lay member are as yet a matter of strong conjecture, and the accomplishment of which is a threat to democratic government.

The Protection of Competition

THE veracity of "Big Business" is L being put to a test these days, and there is a general tendency to overthrow the competitive business system. In fact some economists have recently openly preached a monopolistic system as preferable, and certain administrative principles recently advocated support the trend. Without defense intended for any unscrupulous practices of moneyed interests which have worked against the public welfare, a look into the Here." But there are things happen- heart of Big Business may make us ing today that make us wonder wonder if, after all, the competitive whether such an opinion is correct. system does not vibrate with some

> warmth. A savings and loan company salescoast sales force was told that all trade, but that retailers were to be given every opportunity to unload

That is just one little incident which came to us unsolicited from to the extent that the man telling

We have on our desk the beauti-It is further provided that any accused many times of being mem-

tempts to force organization upon low. Becase of the increased dethe reduced supply, livestock quotations at that market would promptly rise until they were again in line with prices at other markets. In this way the competition of nationwide distributors holds livestock markets in line with one another. The same competition that has made the market for meat national in scope has also created a national market for livestock.

> "The meat packing industry is a free field where there are no favors. Many new firms are set up each year to try their hand in the competitive struggle and to stand or fall on their merits. Some, whether young or old, are able to expand their business, others see their trade diminishing, and still others fall by the wayside. Success comes only to those who essential and valuable service at low cost. . .

"The Shortcomings of Monopoly. As is so often the case with superficial observations and criticisms of this kind, only a portion of the story is presented. If there is merit in the contention that competition is wasteful and should be done away with, the question then resolves itself into one of deciding what course of action would be in order. Obviously the proper course - the only course available-would be to scrap the price depression era of 1924. The competitive system and to reorgan-What, we ask, if Mr. Bridges head of that concern lost a million ize all trade and industry along monopolistic lines. The argument that competition is wasteful necessarily implies that monopoly would be less wasteful.

competition by transforming trade and industry into a series of monopolies, the consequences would quickly become apparent. In the first the efficiency of his operations. . . place, the consumer would have no alternative source from which to obtain his supplies. If he objected to the quality of the goods his retailer have no redress. He would be in the at St. Vincent's hospital. position of having to accept what the producer of raw materials would pital at Walla Walla. have no alternative outlets. He would be obliged to sell his primary products at whatever prices the monopolist might fix, irrespective of the price the consumer would be willing to pay for finished products. Meanstudy their tasks and who render while, the monopolist retailer, wholesaler, or manufacturer would have home Sunday.

Thursday, January 27, 1938

"If an organized effort were made to lower costs, or to reduce prices. to eliminate the so-called wastes of His profits would be assured. He would have little or no urge to improve his efficiency because his survival would not be dependent upon

RHEA CREEK NEWS

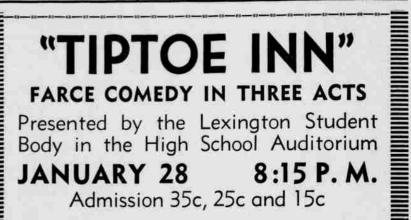
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wright left for Portland Sunday. Mrs. Wright offered for sale, or the kind of ser- is suffering from a severe case of vice, or the prices asked, he would eczema and latest report is she is

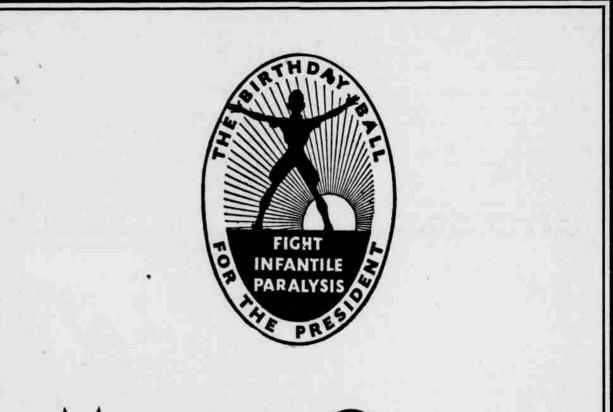
Henry Peterson has returned to was offered or go without. Likewise, his home from the veterans' hos-

> Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Parker are spending a few days at Walla Walla. Mr. and Mrs. Orrin Wright have returned from Portland where Mrs. Wright went for medical care.

> Mr. and Mrs. Tyndall Robison were calling at the Walter Becket

no incentive to study the desires of Mrs. Hilma Anderson has been his customers, to improve quality, ill at her home in Eight Mile.





controversy between rival labor or- bers of the "hogocracy," a name once ganizations or between groups of applied by a vitriolic writer as sigemployees shall not be termed as a nifying a monopoly of the meat labor dispute, and picketing and packing business. This year book boycotting be prohibited in such in- gives a pictured human interest story ter-union controversies.

have won strong support from the year, and a letter of transmittal says determined Polk county grangers is anyone interested may have a copy a section which would prevent any free of charge. It is, indeed, a picture individual or organization from us- of a very large and successful busiing force, coercion or any other un- ness. A few excerpts from this comlawful method to prevent a person pany's story may be enlightening: from offering his services to an employer desiring to employ him.

it possible for the courts of this state the basis of field investigations and to issue injunctions to prevent labor information supplied by his sales organizations from picketing or force, he can form a fair judgment boycotting places of business which as to the amount of product his sales are not actually connected with a outlets will take. He can then buy bona fide labor dispute.

Master Ray W. Gill, due to alliance manufacturing and selling plans. with organized labor, prevented through deputies the adoption of a not be planned in this manner. The similar resolution by the Marion meat packer has no control over his county Pomona grange, indications raw-material supplies. He must buy are given that other Pomona and live animals as rapidly as they are subordinate granges will give back- produced and sent to market, and ing to the Polk county resolution.

Certainly no hope of balanced government can exist so long as one obtain. . large class of the population operates outside the jurisdiction of competent brings about a parity in livestock legal authority.

tween shearers and wool growers at prices. If for one reason or another this time to necessitate issuance of livestock should become relatively such a threat as has been made by cheaper in Omaha than in Chicago, Mr. Bridges. If and when such a meat packers having buyers on both controversy does arise, each indi- markets would increase their purvidual case may be taken as a dis- chases in Omaha and reduce their pute. Bridges' threat appears to be buying in Chicago. At the same time, just an answer to a recent resolution livestock growers in the west would of the wool growers that they would send more of their animals to Chifavor "open shop" shearing, but it cago where prices were high, and is nonetheless indicative that at- fewer to Omaha where prices were

of the company along with a report Another proposed feature said to of its financial statement for the "In most industries it is possible

for a manufacturer to plan his out-The farmers likewise seek to make put several months in advance. On just the quantity of raw materials While it is reported that State that will enable him to carry out his

"In the meat business, output canthen find an outlet for meat and byproducts at the best prices he can

"On the buying side, competition prices from market to market no less There is no open controversy be- striking than the parity in meat

Morrow County JOINS Elks Hall & Heppner Saturday, January 29

ELMER STEELE and His Swing Band

\$1.00 the couple

Extra ladies 25c