NAVY NEEDS REFORMING be able to bring about a revised law and garding the naval personnel which will restore the engineers and make the corps

SYSTEM OF PROMOTIONS NOT BEST FOR SERVICE.

Naval Personnel Act Creates Too Many Commanders and Not Enough Subordinates

WASHINGTON, March 21.-During the discussion on the last naval appropriation bill there was a great deal said about the "bulge" or the "hump" in the Navy. Senators who understood the condition in the Navy pointed out that tals "hump" was a dangerous thing, and on account of it there were at present too many high officers and not enough Lieu-tenants and officers of medium rank. It was held that the six-year course at the Naval Academy should be shortened to four in order that more officers of lower rank might be available. Other Senators in discussing this phase said it would only mean that the "hump" would move up a little ways, but would still

When the naval personnel bill was un-der consideration in Congress, and in the years that it was being prepared in the Navy Department, the clamor was made that promotion was too slow in the Navy that men did not attain "command rank" until they were too old to exercise it. It was said that when a man became a Captain and was entitled to take com-mand of a big battle-ship or a cruiser, which had to do guard duty in navai warfare, or elsewhere, he had reached an age where he was practically unfit for the duties of that command. This was the strongest reason brought forward for a large increase in the number of Rear-admirals of the Navy to retire on a rank in advance of that which they held in the active service. This was accom-plished in the naval personnel bill.

We find, now, however, that we have too much command rank and not enough "watch and division officers." A watch and division officer is a Lieutenant, either of the senior or junior grade. His duty is aboard ship. His watches, or a certain time in which he is on duty, are ap-portioned to him, and certain petty offi-cers and sailors are assigned to his com-mand. In case of a battle he has a mand, in case of a battle he has a certain division of the ship or a certain gun to watch. Therefore he is called a watch or division officer, and is a highly useful man to a ship. The cry has gone up that we have not enough watch and division officers to hold these subordinate positions on the big battle-ships, the crutiers and such vessels, and at the same time it is said that we have more than a sufficient number of officers for the command of these big vessels. It is an interesting feature of our naval

service that a man who has attained the command rank, say that of a Captain, is never assigned to the command of a small vessel. He is given command of a battle-ship or cruiser but scarcely ever a monitor. Sometimes monitors are placed in the hands of Captains, but not very often. Then there is a grade of vessels that are in command of Commanders and even of Lieutenant-Commanders, But a number of Commanders and Lieutenant-Commanders must be assigned to each of the big battle-ships. There are certain duties which it is deemed that only officers of this rank can perform, and the men in the Navy of this rank are distributed quite liberally on these big ships. Generally these are positions called good billets, and lend up to a command when but the same and super bullets, and lend up to a command when but the same and super bullets.

The smaller vessels of the Navy-the gunboats, monitors, torpedo-boats and merous smaller crafts-are in command of Lieutenants, those same Lieutenants. cers on battle-ships, and for which there now a considerable demand. Young naval officers prefer these positions. They fraturally would rather be in command of a small vessel than on a big ship with half a dozen or more officers ranking them. More than that, these small ves sels are often sent on important missions, and the young Lieutenant is given an op portunity to get himself to the front. Independence in such a matter is appre-

ciated and sought after. These are some of the reasons why there years' course, likely to be placed in com mand of some vessel on account of the methods pursued in the Navy Department, the Senate determined to stand firm for the six-year course and have the cadets given two years at sea in order that they might become competent to take positions which might be assigned to them.

Now to get back to the trouble. The

naval personnel act made the Navy too top-heavy. The desire was to make promotion easy and get young men into what is known as command rank. The result is there are more men in the command rank than there are vessels to command. There are in all five stations in the Navy. There are 18 Rear-Admirals. This leaves 13 for the various navy-yards, but the navy-yards should not be in command of Rear-Admirals, although a great many As a matter of fact, the navy-yards could, for the most part, be in command of officers of lower rank. There is too much rank at the top. There are too many Rear-Admirals. Of the positions the Naval Bureau, one is filled by a Captain, who has the rank of Rear-Admiral during his term of office, and another by a Commander, who holds the same rank. Both these positions might easily be filled by Rear-Admirals, and these officers of command rank assigned to versels, but there are no vessels for them, and there are too many Captains and Commanders for the vessels of the first-class, which these officers think they should command, as others would be beneath their dignity. Attention has already been called to the fact that the naval personnel act destroyed the engineer corps, and that the Navy Department is experiencing great difficulty in getting a sufficient number of engineers to run the ships that are affoat, The Chief of Engineers, in his last report, called attention to this feature, although that same Chief Engineer recommended the naval personnel bill with all the force that he could bring to bear. A number of that he could bring to hear. A number of dent, but that it constitutes a well-d engineers who were proficient in their profession believed that the engineer was a blg feature of a chip in fighting a battle, but it was no use. The determination was to press it through, and it passed.

Another portion of the Navy largely benefited by the naval personnel act is the marine corps. Now the marines have many excellent men among their officers and they have, no doubt, done good service. They fought well in Cubs, and did good service in China. But there was no necessity whatever for increasing the number to such a large extent as was done by the personnel bill. The number of officers and in the fank of the officers was also increased. Up to that time the nighest officer in the marine corps was a Colonel. Now he is a Brigadier-Ge and there are two or three Colonels. There are also Colonels and Quartermasters Colone's and Commissaries, with the corresponding number of Lieutenant-Colonels, Majors, Captains, etc. The marine corps has a great many good men in it, but it has also been filled with the men who were unable to get through the naval or military academies. Young men with political pulls have been shoved into the marine corps, and many political debts paid in this way. The increase made in the marine corps caused many vacancies, and some fat patronage was disposed of

in the appointments. The question naturally arises, Will there ever be a reform, and will Congress

BAKER'S AREA INCREASED what it should be, and also to dispose of the "hump" at the top of the present

RESULT OF ANNEXATION OF UNION COUNTY PANHANDLE.

Section Has Resources Which Will Help Make Baker the Mining County of the State.

BAKER CITY, March 24.-An important change in boundaries was made by the law passed by the late Legislature anrais. In the Navy promotion to Rear-Admirais must be made without regard to merit or fitness or physical ability. In the Army, the President may select any nexing the "Panhandle" of Union to Baker County. A strip of county possessing great resources has changed county allegiance. While the people of Baker Colonel or Captain to be a Brigadier-General, and any Brigadier-General to County are rejoicing, a corresponding sense of depression affects Union County. Baker's gain is Union's loss. Annexation be a Major-General. In the Navy he is bound to promote a man to the highest of the "Panhandle" to Baker County has great significance to Union County, es-pecially to the town of Union, the county rank according to his seniority. It is true that the senior naval officer may not be ordered to command, but it shows weak-ness in the system. Probably good reseat. For years there has been a county seat war on between Union and La Grande, La Grande desires an enabling sulte could be brought about by providing that the President might select from Ing that the President might select from act that the residents of the county may captains or Commanders men to be Rear-vote on relocating the county capital. Admirals when vacancies occur, the same The "Panhandle" was 20 miles nearer Assembly Hall at the University of Chi-

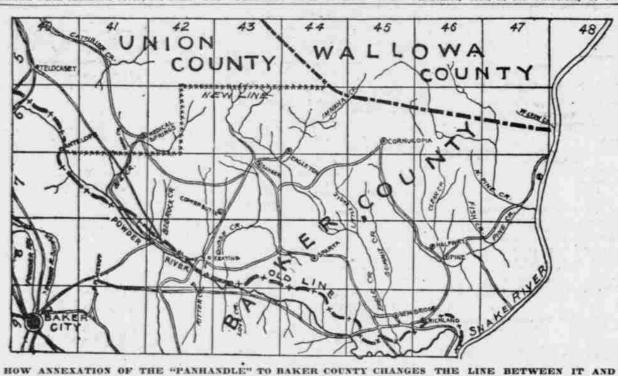
try lying east of Wasco. In 1864 Union County was cut off from Baker, taking with it that portion of the state now in-cluded in Union and Wallows. In 1867 Malheur was cut off from the southern and of Baker, leaving it comparatively a small county.

While annexation of the "Panhandle" is bitterly denounced by some residents of Union County, it is returning to Baker County land once included within its coundaries. Division of the county in-debtedness has not been made yet. The County Treasurer of Union County estimates that the present indebtedness of that county is about \$25,000, less delinquent taxes amounting to about \$30,000 or \$40,000. After deducting the cost of county buildings this indebtedness is to be divided between Union and Baker on the basis of the assessed valuation of the "Panhandle" and the remainder of the county. Baker County's indebtedness is but little over \$100,000.

STUDENT MIGRATION.

Representatives of Twelve Universities Favor the Plan.

Chicago Tribune,



UNION COUNTY.

as he now choose from Colonels or Lieu- Union than La Grande, and naturally tenant-Colonels, or even Captains, men to be Brigadier-Generals. By such a proviction, good material could be advanced to the higher grades for the purpose of commanding the important stations or to take charge of fleets in case of war. The acompetents would still reach the grade of Captain, the same as incompetents in the Army reach the grade of Colonels in the regular rotation of time, but they could not be forced into the high rank and places of command for which they human task to pass any such legislation, the men who fill them advance in rank in view of the pull that naval officers to be Captains. after a few disasters on the sea, and the necessity for properly manning our ships, it would seem that Congress would not be influenced by anything like political that ought to be watch and division offi- pull or personal solicitation to avoid doing what seems a plain duty to secure the best results in the Navy.

navai establishment? Nothing can be done now to change the condition, as far

as the present officers are concerned, but it would be a good thing if some arrange-

ment might be made which would pro

cure a sufficient number of officers, and

yet enable promotions to be sufficiently speedy to insure good officers places of

from any of the lower ranks and made a

Brigadier-General, which corresponds with the second division of Rear-Admi-

command.

FACTS ABOUT REPTILES.

Habits of Lizards Just Found Out by

is a "hump" at the top and a hiatus to-wards the bottom. It was sought to cure he has discovered the California lizard this history shortening the terms of the naval cadets, but when it was pointed out that these naval cadets were, after a four rary life of its own, which enables its

owner to escape.
"I noticed first," said he, "that many of the lizards had lost their tails when I caught them, and when I had a collection of 20 or more I found that I had a singular assortment. Some of the little creatures had no talls; others stumps an inch or two long. One had two talls, or stumps, growing, and the greater number had new tails in process of growth. The enemie of the lizards here are snakes, and the roadrunner, a bird, but it appeared some. what remarkable that so many lizards should have escaped with merely the loss of the tail. It was evident, judging from my collections, which included four kinds of lizards, that most of the lizards at-tacked got away, but that they escaped by deliberately releasing the tail never occurred to me until I actually saw the

"I kept some of my lizards staked out by long cords in the sun that I might watch them. One day a cat had discovered the unusual herd of them, and as I sat watching them she came creeping by. A small lizard with a blue patch beneath that might be filled by Rear-Admirals in its mouth attracted her attention, and missed, her claw hitting the ground a

few inches away. "The lizard darted off to the full length of the cord, leaving to the amazement of the cat, and I may say myself, its tall, which squirmed, leaped and twisted as though possessed of life of its own. The squirming tail attracted the attention of the cat, which, assuming it to be the lizard, seized it, only to find that the tail was an active partner to the latter's plan of escape. For two or three minutes the tail leaped and struggled, and as it was two inches long its simulation of a living animal or a small litard was com-plete, so exact indeed that the cat was deceived and devoted her attention to

it, allowing the animal itself to escap "This solved the mystery of my lizards with stub tails; that had all lost their tails in adventures of this or a similar kind, and the trick had saved their lives I am confident that it is not an acci-

Cosette. Rev. P. A. Sheehan.
Across the gray sands of Dinan,
Conette!
Comeet thou, bird of sea and song. Cosette! Thy hair-cloud streaming far behind,

Vexed by the teasing, amorous wind, Light in thy laughing eyes, and kind.

Where art thou now? On what far brink, Cosette! Of life's wild waves, that swell and sink? Cocate!
Dead is the Spring of nimble feet,
Dull are thine eyes' glad fires, and fleet,
And shivered age thy youth must greet,
Cocatte!

Back, Fancy? and let Memory paint Consette! Hers are the lines most true, tho' faint, Constte!
Child wert thou then! Child art thou now!

Life's dawn upon thy shining brow!

Woman and wise? God disallow! Conettel Nay! let me see thee as afar, Above the floor of yonder star, Cosette! When we shall meet in halls of heaven,

Beyond those peaks with sorrow riven, Let me behold my child of seyen, Cosette!

"Panhandle" has about 1000 voters, would have been an important factor in deciding the question. With the "Pan-handle" annexed to Baker, it is the gen-eral belief that La Grande will win out

a contest for relocation.

The loss of the "Panhandle" will also be felt commercially by Union. The arguments advanced for annexation to Baker County were that the trade of the "Panhandle" was tributary to Baker City, because of geographical conditions. Residents of that section, however, were compelled to visit Union whenever at-tending to county business, and, naturally, traded there more or less. This business will now fall to Baker City, and make it the complete distributing point for the

Scientific Investigators.

A remarkable defense about lixards has recently been the subject of investigation by a prominent member of the Academy of Sciences in Los Angeles, Cal., says the Cincinnati Enquirer. To save its life has discovered the California lizard

Hirce miles while the other is 14 by four. While small, both are phenomenally productive, and, if covered with fruit-bearing trees, as they will be when given proper facilities for reaching the market, will become valuable territory. Great development is expected in the gold mines about Cornucopia, even though rail transportation is not afforded, and especially if this guickening influence is given the if this quickening influence is given the tell their students to go to other universiregion. Over in the Vaughan district and ties," said President Hall, "Everything about Ballard's Landing, where large possible should be done to encourage miabout Ballard's Landing, where large possible should be done to encourage mito light, the future will undoubtedly see a great industry. While the "Panhandle" has some good agricultural land, its mineral resources give the greatest promise

of wealth and large population.

While Baker City residents, in common with those of any other Baker County district, are glad to welcome a new population, this does not fully explain the oy experienced at the acquisition of the 'Panhandle." It is the dream of the people of this place to have Baker County embrace the mines of Eastern Oregon. It now contains most of the big properties, but the "Panhandle" embraces a large district that has a good future in the mining world. That portion of Grant County adjoining Baker County has an important mining district, including such properties as the Red Boys those of the Alamo, Robinsonville, Greenhorn, Quartzville, Prairie City regions, a portion of the Cove district and the mines adjacent to the Cougar. This territory is direct-ly tributary to Baker County and its towns. Some portions of the mining region mentioned are so located that restdents have to make a considerable trip across mountains to Sumpter, and then across other mountains to the county seat of Grant County. The hope of having this district also annexed to Baker has been expressed, and may be the ground for a contest in the future. With it, Baker County would be synonymous with the

Eastern Oregon mining industry. Mere sentiment is not alone responsible for the desire to have all mining interests in Eastern Oregon Joined under one county organization. The mining indus-try is peculiar. What benefits a farmer or lumberman may be injurious to the miner. If the great controlling industry of a county is mining, it is but natural that measures adapted to the promotion of that industry should be first in the minds of the people. By bringing min-ing interests together, greater strength given whatever demands have to be ade in their behalf. These benefits are ntemplated in the desire of residents of

this place for a big mining county.
About 22 townships of land are cluded in the strip known as the " handle." The land lies between the Pow-der River on the south and the Eagle Mountains on the north, which range is the southern boundary of Wallowa County, It has an assessed valuation of something over \$400,000. The population is about 2000. The "Panhandle" is di-vided into 20 school districts. Pine and Eagle Valleys, Cornucopia, Sparta, San-ger, Ballard's Landing and Iron Dyke are the principal precincts. The new line cut-ting off the "Panhandle" starts from the former northern point of Baker County, where the Powder River makes a hig bend south of Telocasset, runs about 12 miles east, six miles north and 12 miles east, to where the Wallowa County boundary is intersected. North Powder and Mineral Springs still remain in Union County. A small agricultural strip down the north side of Powder River is in-cluded in the portion of the "Panhandle"

The strip now taken from Union and given to Baker was formerly a portion of Baker County. In 1854 all of Eastern Oregon was organized into one county. known as Wasco, perhaps the largest county on record. Major Raines, of the Fourth Infantry, then stationed at The Dalles, protested against the county or-ganization for several reasons. After Colonel Baker met his tragic fate at Ball's Bluff, in the Civil War, his name was perpetuated by a division of the Big Eastern Oregon county into two parts, and their brains and of strong women with bees the naming of one for him. Then Baker in their bonnets—has there been, is there.

cago and discussed the problems relating would have voted to have the county seat to graduate study and the necessity of retained at the former place. As the uniform requirements for the higher degrees. It was the second annual meeting of the association of American Univer-sities. The plan of students migrating from one university to another during the years of graduate study met with unani-

nous approval.

Professor Ira Remsen, of Johns Hopkins University, opened the discussion with a paper on "Migration Among Graduate Students," citing the example of Germany, where an ideal system of migra-tion exists, and said that a similar plan should meet with the encouragement of the association. He said that while a mi-gration of a certain kind does already exist, it is due largely to dissatisfaction among the students, and does not arise from the best motives. He said a certain narrowness results when a student takes The "Panhandle" is thought to be a rich tract, although but partly developed. The same facilities for reaching market now enjoyed by most Oregon fruit regions will cause two of its valleys to become great fruit sections. Eagle and Pine Valleys produce a scrate of fruit re-Pine Valleys produce a grade of fruit un-excelled anywhere. One is about six by three miles, while the other is 14 by four. The statement that while the members of Alander, Carpenter

iniversity merely from a desire to hear the best men on a subject it would be a stimulus to the professors to turn out their best work. I hope to see the time when it makes no difference whether an eminent man has one student or many

in his classes, President Harper, of the Chicago University, said that men were being urged every week to go from Chicago to other institutions, where they could specialize to better advantage in certain lines. "If we should put down all that we have in common," said Dr. Harper, "we should be surprised at the uniformity of condi-tions, and how easy it is for students to

change from one school to another,"

The Rev. T. J. Conaty, of the Catholic University of America, thought the question of migration largely depended upon the uniformity of requirements, and that no practical results could be arrived at until the matter of requirements be

BACK IN THE FATHERLAND. Guidance for Naturalized Citizens Who Return to Europe.

Washington Star. In conformity with a plan perfected some time ago, and announced at the time, to reduce the chances of naturalized citizens involving themselves in trouble upon returning to their native land, the State Department has prepared a series of circulars, which are to be furnished to such naturalized citizens upon application, telling them exactly what they may expect. The circular is different in the case of each of the European countries which has shown a disposition to hold its citizens to account when they emigrate to the United States and become naturalized. It is distinctly stated that the information given in the notice is believed to be cor-rect, yet it is not to be considered as official, as it relates to the laws and regu-

lations of a foreign country.

The notice which is given to American citizens formerly subjects of Russia, who contemplate returning to that country, is a fair sample of the others, though, of course, there are substantial differences where the laws vary. This Russian circular notifies the recipient that, under the Russian law, if he returns to Russia after having become a naturalized citizen of another country without imperial consent he is liable to deportation to Si-beria, the loss of all civil rights and perpetual banishment. Even if he left Russia in infancy he is liable to this banish-ment upon return, unless he obtained the Emperor's consent to his expatriation,

upon attaining the age of 21 years.
Russians are liable to military service between the ages of 21 and 43 years, agd no Russian above 15 years of age can ask permission to expatriate himself unless he has acquitted his military obligations. Russian Jews from America are not allowed to enter Russia without special permission, and the state department cannot act as an intermediary in obtaining this There is no treaty between the United States and Russia defining the status of American citizens of Russian birth upon their return to Russia without a passport, and a fresh permit to remain in Russia must be obtained every six months,

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Persona calling for these letters will please state date on which they were advertised, March 25. They will be charged for at the

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Kent, Mrs Ada-2
Lahn, Neilie M-3
Loird, Mrs Katie
Lancaster, Miss Tessie
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Litby, Miss Mable
Linebaugh, Libbie
Lopeze, Mrs E P
Long, Miss Elma Marselles
Lucas Miss Roxy
Ludvig, Margaret C Adams, Ida G Adams, Mrs A H Allison, Miss Ethel Alexander, Mrs Lucy Dames, Mrs C M
Ames, Mrs Alice
Arson, Miss Mabel
Ashton, Mrs EmmaAshton, Mrs E-3
Baker, Mrs Alice
Baker, Mrs Mary
Balinsifer, Mrs Effle
Barley, Mrs Lucy P
rett

Ludvig, Margaret C McAuliffe, Miss Delja Barley, Mrs Lucy Parett
Barr, Mrs Eleva
Barr, Mrs Eleva
Barkman, Mrs Ida
Beildn, Mrs Lount
Bell, Miss Lena
Bell, Miss Ann J
Bersch, Mrs Mary
Biles, Miss Allie
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Mattleson, Mattle
Middleton, Miss Gindy
Miner, Mrs
Montville, Miss A
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Neigen, Mrs Henry
Netts, Mrs Maud E
Newell, Miss Delate
Nichols, Mrs Alex
Pendeton, Mrs Maria
Pendeton, Mrs Maria
Penderon, Mrs Maria
Penderon, Mrs Maria
Penderon, Mrs C A
Phillips, Mrs C T
Foliny, Mrs C T
Foliny, Mrs E Reno
Porter, Mrs A
Potter, Mrs M
Frather, Mrs M
Handall, Mrs George
Ramey, Miss Hell
Rice, Mrs Lena
Rosadamel, Etta
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Robbinson, Mrs Grace
Ross, Mrs D G W
Borde, Mrs A B
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Boss, Edward
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Rohn, Machael
Rodlan, Lawrence
Roberts, G T
Rogers, Herbert L
Rowland, Theodore
Saben, Alden
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Shultz, H B
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Sippy, Master James
Slower, James
Slower, James
Slower, James
Stewman Broa
Stmith, J H
Smith, Sam
Steelsmith, C E
Steghens, J E
Sunderland, S
Swanders, George
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No matter with what alliment you are afflicted, Nature is always doing her level best to make you strong and well again; but Nature must be aided, for in four cases out of five ahe has beenimposed upon Electricity is Nature's own remedy, and, when it is properly applied, will cure every lil which may afflict mankind. My method of applying Electricity to the human system is my own discovery, and as a reward the United States Government has given me the exclusive use of this method—a method which has proven so effective and curative to weak, vigorless men and women that the name of my Electric Belt will cure all the alliments for which I recommend it, and therefore I will guarantee my Belt to cure you; if it falls it does not cost you a cent. You cannot afford to experiment with the known concerns and inexperienced practitioners, battering your stomach with drugs and nostrums, You want to be cured at once and without delay. The cures my Electric Beit makes speak for themselves. I can refer yoft to more than 20,000 well parsons who were once as badly off as you can possibly be. My Electrical Suspensory is free to every male patient.

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male patient.
You should by all means have my new book.
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Must not be classed with the many so-called electric belts now offered to the public. It has a Quadruple Power Battery and has soft, silken, chamois-covered Power Battery and has soft, silken, chamois-covered sponge water-chamber electrodes which cannot burn and blister as do the bare metal electrodes used on all other makes of belts. It has interchangeable battery cells and can be renewed when burned out for only rsc; no other belt can be renewed for any price and when burned out is worthless. My Electrical Suspensory free to each male patient. I absolutely guarantee my Belt to cure Varicocele, and all Weaknessessin either sea; restore Lost Vigor and Vitality; cure Rheumatism in every guise. Kidney, Liver and Biadder Troubles. Chronic Corstipation, Nervous and General Deblity, Dyspepsia, all Female Complaints, etc.

Female Complaints, etc.

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Write to-day. Society confidential. I have written a book, "The Finding of the Fountain of Eternal Youth," which will tell you all about it. Sent free, postpaid, for the asking. Advice without cost, Sold only by DR. BENNETT Electric Belt Co.

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From San Francisco-Sail every 5 days Leave Spoar-attert Pier 24 at 11 A. M.; Columbia, Mon., March 4; Thurs., March 14; Sun., March 24; Wed., April 3; Sat., April 13; Geo. W. Elder, Sat., March 9; Tues., March 16; Fri., March 29; Mon., April 5; Thurs. March 18.

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WILLAMETTE RIVER DIVISION. PORTLAND AND SALEM, OR. Steamer Ruth, for Salem, Independence and way points, leaves from Ash-street Dock at * A. M. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays Returning, leaves Independence at 5 A. M. and Salem at 6 A. M., on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

CORVALLIS AND ALBANY. mer Modoc leaves Portland at 6 A. M. desdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, Re-ng, leaves Corvallis at 6 A. M. on Mon Wednesdays and Fridays. YAMEILL RIVER ROUTE.

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*4:00 P. M. Albany passenger *10:10 A. M. [7:30 A. M. Corvalits passenger. [|5:50 P. M. ||4:50 P. M. Sheridan passenger.. ||8:25 A. M. *Daily. ||Daily except Sunday.

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Leave for Oswego daily at 7:20, "6:40 A. M.; 12:30, 1:55, 5:25, 4:40, 6:25, 8:39, 11:30 P. M.; and 8:90 A. M. on Sundays only. Arrive at Portland daily at "6:35, 8:30, "10:50 A. M.; 1:35, 2:10, 4:30, 6:15, 7:40, 10:00 P. M.; 12:40 A. M. de daily, except Monday, 8:30 and 10:05 A. M. on Sundays only.

Leave for Dalias daily, except Bunday, at 5:00 P. M. Arrive at Portland at 9:30 A. M. Passenger train leaves Dallas for Airlie Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 3:50 P. M. Raturns Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

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