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city.

THE MORNING OREGONIAN, FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1902.



The British Commissioners have proposed a new tariff of 10 per cent on all imports. instead of 5 per cent, as now, and as an offset to this advance they want the Chi-nese Government to abolish all likin or Interior taxes on goods going from the Treaty points into the interior. This likin fax or duty is very much the same as if duties were collected in the United States on goods in transit from one state to another. On the face of it this is de-sirable, and if I were a Britisher, I would strongly advocate it. But we must look at it from our own selfish point of view, which is as follows:

But British trade is mainly in the Yang-tase Valley, and the Southern Provinces, where the 'likin' system of collecting internol taxes on duties is strictly en-forced. These taxes amount on the av-erage to more than 15 per cent. Hence, if the tariff proposed by the British be adopted, their goods in their principal territory will be on as good, if not bet-

"But as American trade is principally But as American trade is principally with North China, the duty on our lum-ber and flour will be increased 10 per cent, if the proposed new tariff is adopt-ed. The cost of these commodities to consumers will have to be increased to porrespond. Now the fact is that our lumber is too be the state of the lumber is too high at the present time in China, and another 10 per cent added to the present price would be almost prohibitive. Consumption of our lumber is miready decreasing, because of the recent advance in price, and I fear it will continue to decrease. Corean and Japanese woods of an inferior quality can be and are used to a great extent, and every dollar per 1000 feet we add to the price of our lumber will decrease consumption Hence it is important that the proposed furcteese in duty on our lumber shell be increase in duty on our lumber shall be

apply. mental, because when the price goes be-yond a certain figure, the great mass of people here, who have been learning to use our flour, will get along without it sitogether, or at least with much less than formerly.

has for some time been preventing the adoption of the new tariff. But in due course of time the tariff will be adopted. ton to prevent it. If General Sharretts were a member of the Treaty Commiswere a member of the Treaty Commis-sion, I feel quite sure he could and would protect our interests. Or, if the Presi-dent were urged to do something in the matter, he might cable Minister Conger to agree, under no circumstances, to the proposed new tariff and treaty unless our interest are protected."

They Propose to Regulate Closing Hours and Price of Shine Tickets.

black shops in this city met last night for the purpose of establishing closing hours. The sentiment was unanimous that the shops were open longer than was necessary for the accommodation of the public, and it was decided that hereafter the shops shall close on week days, ex-