

## BERNARD SILBERSTEIN.

Bernard Silberstein, president and treasurer of the Silberstein & Bondy company, of Duluth, and one of the leading merchants of the Northwest, has been in business in Duluth for 30 years. Thirty years ago this week he came to Duluth from Detroit and established himself in a small way in the dry goods business in a storeroom immediately west of the present business of LaVaque & Co. At that time there were some 2,000 or 4,000 people in this city. The name of the firm to begin with was Silberstein, Witcher & Farrell.

In 1871, after doing business together for one year, Mr. Silberstein bought his partners out. In 1881 I. Bondy, of St. Paul, became interested with Mr. Silberstein and they established here the firm of Silberstein & Bondy. In 1896 the company was incorporated as the Silberstein & Bondy company and that is the title of the firm still. Mr. Bondy, as most Duluth people are aware, is dead.

In 1884 Silberstein & Bondy erected the present building occupied by the store, at Nos. 9 to 11 West Superior



street. It was the first building of metropolitan pretensions to be built in Duluth and many people thought that it was a great business mistake. They said that the store was too big. The success of the firm is well known in this city and requires no reference here.

Mr. Silberstein is a member of the board of park commissioners and he takes much interest and pride in the important work that it is conducting in the way of beautifying the city by the establishment of parks, driveways and the boulevard. The very elaborate system of these improvements is pretty well understood by Duluth people, for all have visited the parks and the Boulevard. Cascade square in Duluth is considered by many competent judges as one of the finest small parks

in the country. Mr. Silberstein, besides taking an active interest in the park board, also takes an active interest in all matters of municipal importance. He is a leading citizen in every sense.