

FORTY YEARS IN BUSINESS HERE

B. Silberstein Celebrates Anniversary of Long Period in the Drygoods Trade in Duluth.

**PRESENT BIG BUILDING
ERECTED 27 YEARS AGO**

**Employees Pay Fitting Tribute to
Head of Firm—City Only
a Small Town.**

B. SILBERSTEIN.



Bernard Silberstein, founder of the Silberstein & Bondy company, yesterday celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his career in the Duluth dry goods trade. The employes of the house took advantage of the occasion to visit him in his office and tender him as a token of their esteem, a handsome bouquet of American beauty roses. Mrs. U. Gorman and J. Johnson, on behalf of the staff, tendered their congratulations and voiced the hope that the future held in store for Mr. Silberstein many active business years.

Discussing with the News Tribune, the initial years of his career in Duluth, Mr. Silberstein had many interesting reminiscences to tell.

He first occupied a store built for him by Dr. Collins, located where the new Fidelity building now stands. Superior street in the spring was then practically a quagmire, and in order to make crossing it possible at all, he put down a couple of logs.

Other men in business here at that time were, Peter Dean, who ran a general store, and Hunter & Cottrell who conducted a hardware establishment. He had the first exclusive dry goods store.

The population of the town was then about 3,000.

His next move was across the street into the stand now occupied by the Bridgeman-Russell company, and in 1884 he and his late partner, I. Bondy, built the store now occupied by the Silberstein & Bondy company. At that time they were laughed at for so far anticipating the future of the city in the size of their building. However, their foresight in that respect was later abundantly justified, as evidenced that six years ago it became necessary to add an additional story.

Mr. Silberstein can also take credit for being one of the oldest city officers, having been a member of the Park board since its inception, 20 years ago. He has always taken a deep interest in the park system and has watched its steady expansion along well defined lines with pride and pleasure.