

SILBERSTEIN TO SEE "RECONSTRUCTION"

Commissioner Will Pass Judgment on "Birth of a Nation" at Superior Tonight.

Public Safety Commissioner Silberstein, Duluth's official motion picture censorship "board," will pass judgment on "The Birth of a Nation," against which protests have been lodged by local negroes, when the picture is shown in Superior tonight. A committee of the negroes also will attend the performance, according to information received by Commissioner Silberstein.

The picture is booked to be shown at the Lyceum theater beginning next week. Negroes of the city have declared that it is unfair to their race, that it is apt to incite race hatred and has been barred in many cities. Should Silberstein deem any portion of the picture objectionable he will order eliminations made. The picture will be presented in Superior without any elimination, it is understood.

According to word received by Silberstein yesterday morning from Mayor Powers of St. Paul, the picture received official indorsement of the city when shown there.

The St. Paul mayor is quoted as follows:

"I feel that I had an unusual privilege in seeing this picture; that it is a very great and moving spectacle which a man cannot see without being impressed in a big way which entirely overpowers small considerations. I came away saying to myself that I wished every friend of mine might see it. So far as hostility to the colored people being stirred by it, I can only say that it did not impress me that way at all. It gave me a keen sense of appreciation of what the colored race has had to contend with, and of how splendid has been the advancement of that race in so brief a period of time—an advancement which might well put the white race to shame. The picture certainly makes clear the duplicity and treachery of white men who used colored men for base purposes, and I cannot see that it attempts to hold any race up to ridicule or hatred. So much for my own personal opinion."