

DULUTH THEATER INTERESTS SOLD

Twin City Investors Buy Cook Brothers' Property; Office Building Planned

Transfer of the Cook brothers' half-interest in the Duluth Theater company to the Twin City Amusement Trust estate, Minneapolis, for a reported consideration of more than \$200,000, became known yesterday on the arrival here of H. D. Finkelstein, trustee of the amusement corporation, which is owned and controlled by Finkelstein & Ruben and the Hamm interests.

Under the terms of the sale, which was completed in Duluth last Thursday by M. L. Finkelstein, accompanied by H. J. Charles, counsellor of the corporation, the following property has passed to ownership of the Twin City company:

New Office Building.

New Palace theater, Superior; New Lyric, formerly the Grand, New Garrick, New Aster, all in Duluth, and the site adjoining the Garrick at Second avenue West and First street.

Construction of a \$200,000 office and store building on this site was announced last night by Mr. Finkelstein as the first move under the recent transaction. Plans already have been drawn, he said, and bids will be called shortly for the structure, which is destined to be ready for occupancy by fall.

Bigger Shows Planned.

Confidence in the city's future was given as the basis for the negotiations which led to the closing of the deal, according to Mr. Finkelstein. "It is our purpose to inaugurate an entertainment policy for Duluth on a scale never before attempted," he said.

"Announcements will be made within a month or two concerning our plans for bigger and better shows, which will place this city on a par with New York in the presentation of photoplays and amusement programs. Something new is in store for Duluth, but I am privileged to withhold further details at this time."

Deal Called Satisfactory.

B. J. Cook, treasurer of the Duluth Theater company, issued a statement on behalf of his brother, M. S. Cook, vice president, and himself, in which he declared that the deal was entirely satisfactory, adding that as unusually favorable offer made by their former associates merited acceptance. He is continuing his work, assisting in winding up the affairs of the Duluth firm.

As a result of the transaction, Mr. Finkelstein said, P. F. Schwie, resident manager here, becomes general manager in charge of all of the company's interests in Duluth and Superior.

Firm Owns 42 Theaters.

Accompanying Mr. Finkelstein to Duluth yesterday were Benjamin Faust, real estate representative of the amusement interests, and H. W. Flain, member of their administrative offices, both of Minneapolis.

Finkelstein & Ruben now own and control 42 theaters, being recognized as the largest independent theatrical organization engaged in the motion picture presentation field.

Advanced Policies.

Mr. Schwie announced that the organization planned to "go the limit" in giving Duluth the best in entertainment. "The policies which we shall inaugurate," he explained, "will be in line with the rapid development of the theatrical business. There are many delightful surprises awaiting theatergoers here," he concluded.

Mr. Finkelstein and his associates will be in the city for a day or two, it was said, going over plans for the First street structure.