

CAVALCADE

1939

**PICTURE
PIONEERS*****Film Veterans of 25 Years Form
Their Own Organization***

EARLY this summer there came into existence a new organization known as Picture Pioneer, consisting of veterans who had been in the industry 25 or more years.

Jack Cohn, Columbia Pictures' vice-president was the moving spirit in forming the organization and bringing the veterans together. At first it was thought there were not enough men to form a corporal's guard in the industry today who were interested in pictures a quarter of a century ago. But this conjecture proved altogether wrong, as at the first dinner "Conference" of the Picture Pioneers, held June 29; more than 100 persons appeared who had been active in pictures 25 years ago.

According to the founders, the Picture Pioneers is a club whose members will meet over the luncheon or dinner table two or three times a year, to swap reminiscences and promote good fellowship. It will also be a medium through which the founders of the industry will be kept together and it will perpetuate the social contact of men who started when motion pictures were in their early infancy.

The club organizers did not think there were many persons who began their picture career twenty-five years ago and were still in the industry, and therefore did not expect a large membership. But the idea

Film Veterans

met with such enthusiastic response, including so many requests from out of town veterans that a movement is now on foot to charter a Hollywood chapter and branches in every state in which there are sufficient men eligible to make such chapters possible. Numerous requests for membership have also been received from abroad, especially England.

At the opening conference of the Pioneers, held last June, Jack Cohn was unanimously elected as permanent house manager—or president of the organization—and an executive committee was appointed composed of Jack Cohn, Marvin Schenck, George Schaefer, Herman Robbins, Harry Buckley, Joe Hornstein, William Brandt, Harry Buxbaum, Leon Netter, and Terry Ramsey. Hal Hode was elected secretary, with the title of "Ticket Taker." The committee will make its report in September at the next "Conference" of the Picture Pioneers.

Letters are still being received daily from veterans in every section of the country, who after reading the newspaper accounts of the Picture Pioneers first "Conference," are desirous of joining the organization. All of them have seen 25 years of service in the motion picture industry. Until the chapters are organized, those who are eligible in other parts of the country, are being embraced by the mother chapter.