

FILM ESTIMATES

Progressive teachers will find dependable advice in these estimates on current film releases.

Recognizing that one man's meat may be another man's poison, the National Committee on Current Theatrical Films gives three ratings: A, for discriminating adults;

Y, for youth; and C, for children. These estimates are printed by special arrangement with *The Educational Screen*, Chicago.

BORN TO DANCE (Eleanor Powell, J. Stewart, Una Merkel) (MGM) Madcap musical comedy at its finest. Enough story, comic and serious romance, amusing "features", gorgeous stage numbers, roles well done except hero's, much singing (without a voice in the cast), and Eleanor matchless as acting-dancing heroine. 12-1-36

(A) Excellent (Y) Excellent (C) Good

CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE (Errol Flynn, De Havilland) (Warner) Technical masterpiece. Romanticized history. Bloodcurdling massacre, revenge, love, insubordination made to replace the famous "blunder". Shows glorious "charge" with most complete and terrible realism yet done. Powerful theatrics. 11-17-36

(A) Notable (Y) Very doubtful (C) No

COME AND GET IT (Arnold, McCrea, Frances Farmer) (UA) First half is finest portrayal of large-scale lumbering ever made—when get-rich-quick greed stripped north of its priceless forests—notable for characters and backgrounds. Then sex-triangle stuff develops till it becomes offensive. 11-24-36

(A) Notable (Y) Unwholesome (C) No

EVERYTHING IS THUNDER (D. Montgomery, C. Bennett) (G B) Absurdly pretentious title for dreary struggles of English soldier escaping German prison camps, helped by floppy haired courtesan whose love helps him win. Hardly motivated, colorless, monotonous, with little dramatic tension. 11-17-36

(A) Very poor (Y-C) Useless

FOLLOW YOUR HEART (Marion Talley, Michael Bartlett) (Republic) The wavering fortunes of a stage-struck family not very well told or acted, but pleasing settings, human characters and comedy, and outstandingly lovely singing by hero and heroine make a "musical" quite above average. 11-24-36

(A) Good of kind (Y) Good (C) Little interest

THE GARDEN OF ALLAH (Marlene Dietrich, C. Boyer) (UA) Elaborate, pretentious screening of old story in beautiful color. Camera exotic, drama static. Fixed, expressionless gazing, gasping dialog, momentous whispers, flowing veils—make frail, thin, sweet tragedy of the famous love affair. 12-1-36

(A) Novel (Y) Doubtful (C) No

GO WEST YOUNG MAN (Mae West, W. William) (Para) Mae distorts original play, weights it heavily with her old stuff, and achieves disjointed drama of slight interest aside from its suggestiveness. Cheaply unwholesome and largely stale. Her attempts at singing and acting feeble. 11-24-36

(A) Dep. on taste (Y-C) Thoroughly unwholesome

ISLE OF FURY (Humphrey Bogart, Donald Woods) (Warner) South Sea mystery-sex-melo-drama, quite exciting, scenically fine, and with some startling camera technique. But dramatic values suffer in hectic combination of sex triangle and sensational adventures. Picturesque but unconvincing. 11-10-36

(A) Depends on taste (Y) Better not (C) No

MAN WHO LIVED AGAIN (Boris Karloff) (G-B) Weird thriller, well done, repellant or fascinating according to taste for morbid and fantastic. Mad scientist discovers formula for brain transference, uses it for revenge and murder, until he dies himself in harrowing climax. 11-10-36

(A) Depends on taste (Y) Doubtful (C) No

PIGSKIN PARADE (Patsy Kelly, Jack Haley) (Fox) Hilarious musical farce, crazy situations arising when backwoods college trains for football against Yale and wins in blinding blizzard. Some dubious ethics and lapses in taste so wildly farcical as to be harmless. Much genuinely funny. 11-10-36

(A) (Y) (C) Probably quite amusing

POLO JOE (Joe E. Brown) (Warner) Nonsense farce built exactly for Brown's clowning. Hero hates horses, but to win polo-loving heroine poses as Shanghai polo champion. Finally maneuvered into championship game, ably abetted by his valet. he founders through to win game and girl. 11-10-36

(A) Fairly good (Y) Amusing (C) Good

REUNION (Hersholt and Quints) (Fox) Charming Quintuplets appear twice briefly. Otherwise mere concoction with original cast of Country Doctor. Hersholt busy solving miscarried love affairs, papa Dionne burlesqued at great length, and some comedy is very crude. About a news-reel's worth. 11-24-36

(A) Poor (Y) Not very good (C) Hardly

ROSE BOWL (Tom Brown, Larry Crabbe) (Para.) Dull, elementary football yarn about very small-town college winning place in Rose Bowl! Includes puppy romance and commercialism in colleges. Even the football playing doesn't look real. Dialog banal, acting feeble, realism childish. 11-17-36

(A) Stupid (Y-C) Inane but harmless

TARZAN ESCAPES (Weismuller, O'Sullivan) (MGM) The Tarzan absurdity, with idiot yell, maudlin love motif, grim jungle tragedy, now adds actual shooting of animals, horrible killings of men, and still incessant faking. The preposterous made vividly real. Neurotic food for the young. 11-17-34

(A-Y) No value (C) No

THREE MEN ON A HORSE (McHugh, Blondell) (1st. Nat.) Loud laughs for the multitude in clever screening of rowdy stage-play. McHugh excellent as timid poet who picks racetrack winners for his captors. Acting ordinary, dialog bawled, and the "Newyorkese" is sadly unconvincing. 12-1-36

(A) Depends on taste (Y) Better not (C) No

A WOMAN REBELS (K. Hepburn, H. Marshall) (RKO) Finely done Victorian drama with authentic background, atmosphere and quiet charm of the era. Motherless heroine's youthful romance and betrayal, her fortitude in raising child, finding true romance and mature happiness told with delicacy and restraint. 11-10-36

(A) Excellent (Y) Prob. too mature (C) No