Abused Confidence (Danielle Darieux) French, Eng. titles (Colum.) Finely acted, realistic, very continental story of orphaned heroine driven to deception to win law degree. In notable court scene, her heartfelt eloquence successfully defends and guiltily of same offense and wins pardon for herself. Darieux splendid.
(A) Very good (Y) No (C) No

Beauty for the Asking (Lucille Ball, Patric Knowles) (RKO) Glittering sets and supposed "insight" into doings of the cosmetics business help little this thoroughly artificial, unconvincing triangle theme. Nothing objectionable, just dull and unrelatable, and dramatically lacking.
(A) Mediocre (Y) Hardly (C) No

Crisis (Produced in Sudetenland) (Mayer-Baskin) Strong, straight-forward, anti-Nazi documentary film tracing Hitler doings from Austrian Anschluss to rape of Czechoslovakia deserted by democratic allies. Thought-provoking, full of authentic details, vivid portrayal of world danger, fine narrative accompaniment.
(A) Very good of kind (Y) (C) If it interests

Dark Victory (Bette Davis, George Brent) (Warner) Artistic, unusual, deeply-moving film. Splendid in all respects. Notable for direction and Bette's superb portrayal of girls who readjusts her life and bravely awaits tragic death that faces her. Fine restraint and character values. Tender love story.
(A) Excellent (Y) Very sad (C) Too mature

Dodge City (Errol Flynn, de Havilland) (Warner) Lavish Technicolor western thriller, burrying history in seething melodrama. Railroad displaces stagecoach, hero shoots heroine's brother, longest and smashiest barroom fight ever done, golden spike driven, lurid gun-fight in burning train, and heroine forgives hero.
(A) Depends on taste (Y) Thrilling (C) No

(A) (Y) Very good (C) Doubtful

Grand Illusion (French-English titles) (World) Masterful portrayal of life in German prison camp during great war. Stern realism, with tense interest in varied characters thrown together by fortune of war, lightened by humor, notable acting and expert technique. Strong argument for peace.
(A) Notable (Y) Mature (C) No

Hound of the Baskervilles (Rathbone, Bruce, Greene, Barrie) (Fox) Fine screening of classic, notable cast and settings, with story content by Doyle, not Hollywood. Result, artistic thriller absorbing in character, action, atmosphere and natural dialogue. Should start "Holmes" series with same cast.
(A) (Y) Excellent (C) Very exciting

Ice Follies of 1939 (Stewart, Crawford, Ayres, and famous skaters) (MGM) Impecunious hero and heroine marry, separate, win sudden stardom on ice and screen respectively, and she resigns to rejoin husband! Gorgeouslly beautiful ice carnival in Technicolor makes the film notable despite artificial plot.
(A) (Y) Fine of kind (C) Little interest

Little Princess (Shirley Temple) (Fox) Shirley's best to date, an emotional, strongly human story of child-father devotion, superlatively acted. Father's reported death in Boer War brings sufferings for heroine in exclusive English school, but with genuinely happy ending. Fine technicolor.
(A) Delightful (Y) (C) Excellent

Love Affair (Chas. Boyer, Irene Dunne) (RKO) A masterpiece of cinema, in character, drama, settings, sound, photography, acting and direction. Mature romance between European playboy and American business girl, both with checkered pasts. Simple plot and perfect technique combined in exquisitely artistic film.
(A) Very good (Y) No (C) No

Smiling Along (Gracie Fields) (Fox) British-made hilarious farce-comedy of trials of touring vaudeville troupe finally outwitting crooked manager who fired them. Typical English clowning done with artistry even to the slapstick. Gracie again proves her right to be England's outstanding comedienne.
(A) (Y) (C) Very good of kind

Story of Alexander Graham Bell (Don Ameche, Fonda, L. Young) (Fox) Detailed, well-acted, appealing picture of Bell's struggles, romance and final triumph in developing the telephone. More narrative than drama, but of real value as a document on America's economic history.
(A) (Y) Very good (C) If it interests

Story of Vernon and Irene Castle (Astaire, Rogers) (RKO) Simple human story, quite true to Castles' careers, fine in sets, costumes, acting and historical background. Notable dancing to old tunes, a bit modernized. Pleasing pictorial narrative, rather than drama, leading to pathetically tragic end.
(A) Good (Y) Very good (C) Good

Wife, Husband and Friend (Baxter, L. Young, Binnie Barnes) (Fox) Lightsome, amusing mixture of character comedy, nonsense farce, and satire of singing ambition without voice, well done by fine cast. Inoffensive sophisticated triangle. Elaborate drunken scenes by hero and heroine are gratuitous flaws.
(A) Very good of kind (Y) Better not (C) No

Wuthering Heights (Merle Oberon, L. Olivier, D. Niven (UA) Masterful screening of Emily Bronte classic of sombre atmosphere and fantastic mood, true to its period, splendidly set, cast, and directed. Old-time love story powerfully told from childhood to final tragedy and eerie aftermath. Notable achievement.
(A) Excellent (Y) Mature but good (C) No