# New York Times, 10/2/41



# New York Times, 10/3/41



Detroit Free Press, 11/6/41 MHEN H with Laughter! 5 FOR

### Detroit News, 11/7/41



### Detroit Free Press, 11/8/41

### **Exciting Melodrama on Michigan Bill**

BY FRANK P. GILL Free Press Motion Picture Editor

MESSRS. ALFRED HITCH-COCK and Fritz Lang. filmdom's ace thriller directors. had better look to their laurels, for they are facing dangerous competition in John Huston,

whose maiden effort as a direc-Maltese Falcon," "The opened Friday at the Michigan. All the customary hokum,

which has come to be an integral part of murder mystery films, has been eliminated here as far as possible, and the result is a polished, volatile and gripping melodrama, excellently acted and interestingly photographed.

Huston, in the screen credits, appears in a dual capacity as writer as well as director, and he is entitled to high praise for his alick script, based on the bestselling Dashiell Hammett novel of some years back.

#### Suspense Is Held

is a paramount feature, but custom has prescribed that a formula be created for the identity of the ance in one scene. murderer, so that the suspense, in Maltese Falcon," however, this element of suspense is realistic. and the audience is as baffled as the detective until the final sequences.

Throughout the narrative of the cynical detective who is willing to play with the law against it, for money, there is a thread of sardonic humor and a certain implication of evil intrique which adds materially to the thrills in the plot.

Once the mood is created by the director, the cast carries it through to the bitter end by a series of fine sensitive performances, in which no false notes are sounded.

#### Acting Is Excellent

Humphrey Bogart as Sam Spade, the detective, gives an outstanding characterization, keeping the emotions of an audience mixed and perplexed. Mary Astor, steadily adding to her stature as a dramatic screen, is very effective as Brigid O'Shaughnessy.

However, even more spectacular than either of these stars, is the debut of Sidney Greenstreet, the portly actor who creates the role of Kasper Guttman, head of a gang of thieves, in a sustained series of brilliant scenes. Greenstreet is suave, intensely evil and In this type of film, suspense urbane, providing a perfect foil for the more ruthless Spade. Walter Huston makes a brief appear-

Peter Lorre, Elisha Cook. Jr., most cases is synthetic. In "The Gladys George and Lee Patrick, in support give an excellent account of themselves.

#### Comedy of Amnesia Amnesia has been a stock-in-

trade misfortune for writers of both stage and screen comedies,

actress in her comeback on the the latest of which, "Kisses for Breakfast" is the second picture on the Michigan bill this week. A cast, headed by Dennis Mor-

gan, Jane Wyatt and Shirley Ross romps through this rapid comedy about a young man who finds himself a bigamist as the result of amnesia.

Action, including some free-foralls in which Morgan gets the worst of the deal, is present in sufficient quantity to compensate for the insufficiency of the farfetched plot.

Lee Patrick asso appears in a supporting role in this picture with Jerome Cowan, Una O'Connor and Louise Beavers also in the cast.

## Ann Arbor News, 12/6/41









'DR. KILDARE'S



## Ann Arbor News, 12/9/41

