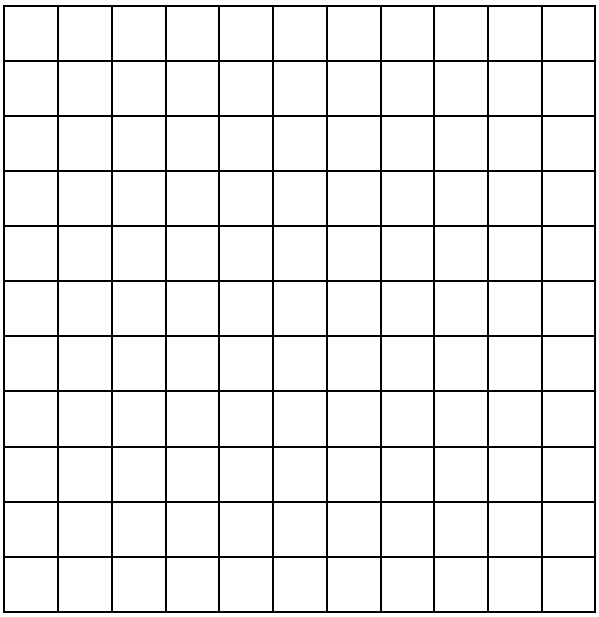
Guest Puzzle — "Hit or Miss" by Arthur Schless



Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from three to twelve letters, and five are capitalized) then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. **Warning**: The direction in which answers are to be entered alternates with every new row and column. Thus, across words that don't end at the right or left continue on the next row in the opposite direction, and down words that don't end at the bottom or top continue in the next column in the opposite direction. Eleven across words and eleven down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those omitted letter are to be placed outside the grid at the end of the row (right or left) or column (top or bottom) in which they occur. When properly placed, they spell an appropriate four-word phrase reading clockwise around the grid.

Across

1. Pence indeed never initially wasted to obtain freedom
2. Combat is appropriate starting late
3. Upset wild deer circling hapless nag
4. Hope radio captures musical drama
5. Provoked unhappy incident when knight left
6. Red nag frolics in Eden, for one
7. Speak timeless stuff
8. Game company backing anti rat action within
9. A lush and the German touring arena
10. Counsel leader to keep plug
11. Closely examine founding colony of Manila Bay
12. Ravaged faces in saloons
13. Voice vote against equine cry
14. Coolidge took degree with intriguing group
15. Passover without initial summer fruit
16. Favored ones go back to dance
17. Athlete looks around first of links
18. Warn of disorder later
19. Give up having nothing and relax
20. Tape disfigured crown
21. Brad's a bluenose
22. Slim boy undressed for dance
23. Dawn – gold in aspect
24. Boast about outfit
25. Bring back too much French wine

Down

1. Wrought iron plane has no equal
2. The urologist has currency
3. Mineral mixture of iron and agate
4. Unusual need for garden
5. Root is hard, gnarled
6. Gold in barn can be kept
7. Tips of cane added to actual grain
8. Impishly I fit pear into alcoholic drink
9. Poise handling lab mop
10. Desire returns with increase in intensity
11. Tree of urban Yankee
12. Result of Mendelism
13. Skid-free phonograph record
14. America’s employees have a cause for legal action
15. Flower, or lose interest
16. Shove mischievous child onto railway
17. Insect meeting let out
18. Destitution of one editorial
19. More unusual apple variety
20. Damaged part gets covering
21. Choose to hide in helicopter
22. Astronaut and Spanish pilot start to race
23. Dude running around court gets channeled
24. Audacity of finally eating everything
25. Bureau of Rochester