## Across

1 Black-and-yellow insect, a serious pest of potatoes $(8,6)$
9 Long-distance telephone communications (5,5)
10 Character with a bald head peering above a wall $(2,4)$
11 Veteran, experienced person (3-5)
12 Gloucestershire castle, scene of the murder of Edward II in 1327 (8)
13 Given a jocular title (9)
14 Capital of Australia's island state (6)
15 Louis Comfort, 1848-1933, US glassmaker (7)
17 ------- I, King of Italy who lived from 1844 to 1900 (7)

20Abbreviated word for a performance without preparation (6)
21 Having had too much food (9)
23 Square basins in atria of ancient Roman houses (8)
25 One who sets fire to property illegally (8)
26 Undo as if opening by fasteners (6)
27 Crustacean with long thin legs (10)
28 American breed of domestic fowl $(5,6,3)$

## DOWN

1 Song written and recorded by James Taylor also recorded by John Denver and Melanie (8,2,2,4)
2 Person who is mentally ill (7)

3 Russian piano virtuoso and composer, 1873-1943 (11)

4 Parts of the oceans where calm and baffling winds prevail (8)
5 Meddlesome prying person (8)
6 Species of wheat with bearded ears and spikelets that each contain two grains (5)
7 Town near Annan in Dumfries and Galloway (9)

8 Part of Nova Scotia separated from mainland by Strait of Canso $(4,6,6)$
14 Oscar, 1895-1960, US librettist and songwriter (11)

16 Buffet-type midday meal $(4,5)$
18 Roman, Polish film director (8)
19 Alcohol forming a constituent of esters used in perfumery (8)
22 Railway wagon for carrying oil or another liquid (4,3)
24Offering nothing that is stimulating (5)


Solution Polymath 1,127


