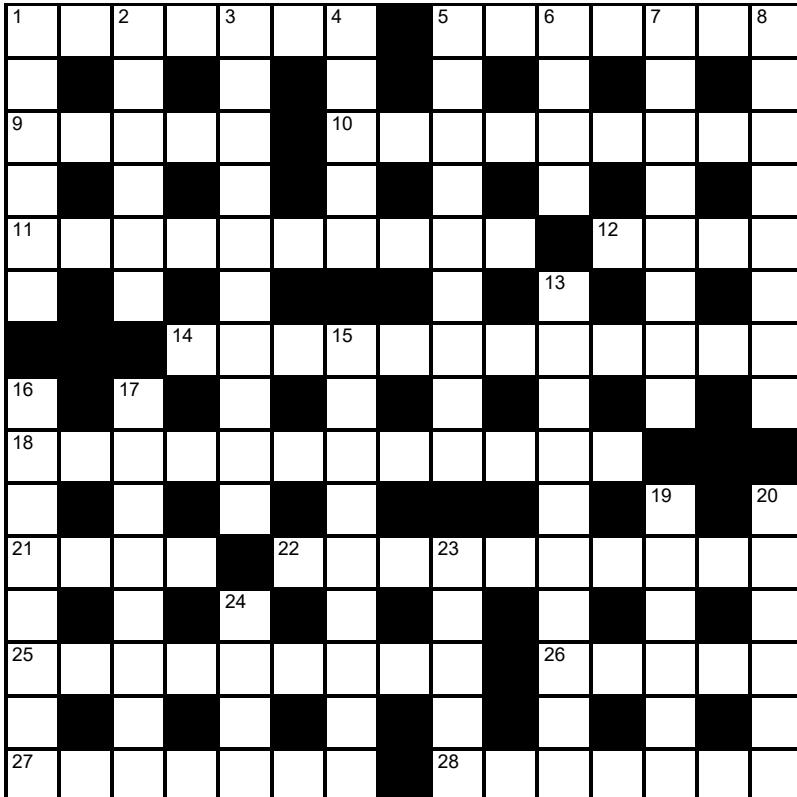


CROSSWORD

No 17,326 Set by BOBCAT



ACROSS

- 1 Military Intelligence backed sanctions ending early deadlock (7)
- 5 Make subject in French school extremely welcome to classicists (7)
- 9 Starters of buckwheat liked in Novosibirsk and Irkutsk (5)
- 10 She could produce *The Mousetrap* (9)
- 11 Investor holding the cards dealt a blow (4-6)
- 12 Retreat from PM losing face (4)
- 14 Led sister astray with notion of paradise? (6,6)
- 18 Novel feature of Attic civilisation (4,2,3,3)
- 21 Couple conclude proceedings on board (4)
- 22 Rude character that is not apparent in Michael Caine's performance (10)
- 25 Kent's one comic figure? (9)
- 26 Unfit setter dozed in audition (5)
- 27 Excess of devoutness — not the first — on Jewish Sabbath (7)
- 28 Obsession with Paddington? It could merit a hard stare (7)

DOWN

- 1 Medic stops team leaders from buying extra drink (6)
- 2 Entertainer who sang for the young Elvis? (6)
- 3 Masquerading sheikhs and bishops enthralled a dish (5,5)
- 4 Author lying about haunt of vice in German port (5)
- 5 Rest in peace? Not a second of it, unfortunately, here (9)
- 6 Well over 25% of yakitori is protein (4)
- 7 Seaweed repeatedly gathered from prime locations in La Guaira (4-4)
- 8 Con-artist's seldom discovered casing wealthy place (2,6)
- 13 Staggering... so daunting, but surprisingly impressive! (10)
- 15 Very, very French — almost all attending Mass in old cathedral city (9)
- 16 Propositions put before half-hearted females (8)
- 17 Notice contains nothing on our weakness (4,4)
- 19 Raise eco-tax within eight days (6)
- 20 Governor tipped to take centre of industrial province (6)
- 23 Potential killer needs to extract drug from hard sweet (1-4)
- 24 Genuine grandeur that's to some extent receding (4)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,325



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