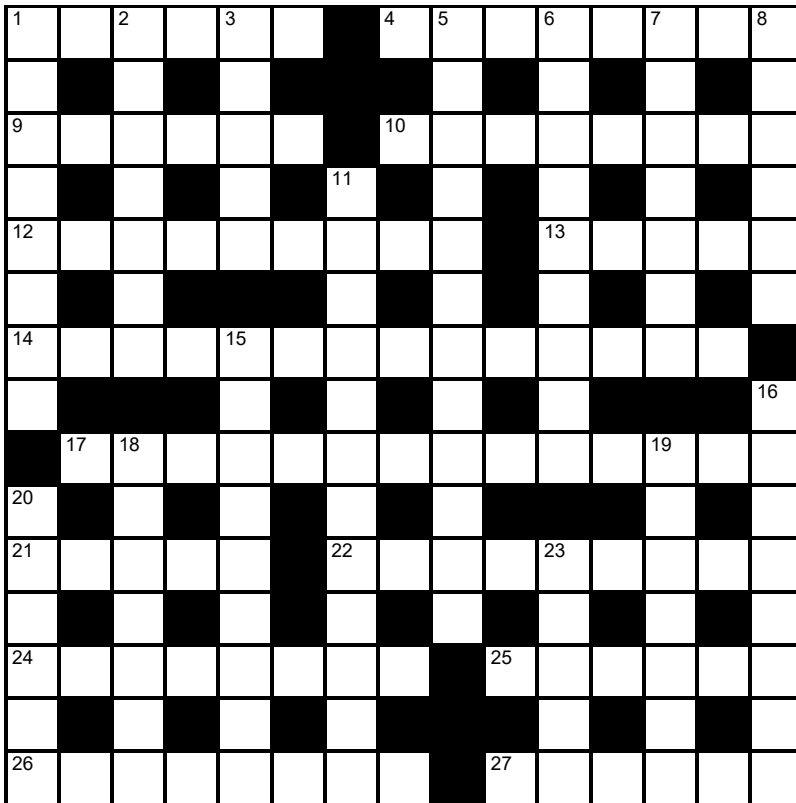


CROSSWORD

No 17,555 Set by ARTEXLEN



ACROSS

- 1 Quietly manipulated steel kitchen utensil (6)
 4 Function by corporation with editor in fancy dress (8)
 9 Vast numbers of pooches aunts regularly collected (6)
 10 Little money in bank of late (8)
 12 Extraction of part of book bearing a tear (9)
 13 Old boy's first to leave firm (5)
 14 Long vehicle carries around hurried railway employee (3,11)
 17 Upset taps wobble (4,3,3,4)
 21 Wood overlooking motorway and river (5)
 22 Restrict suspect, holding central character in banking fraud (9)
 24 Conditions favourable before six call for help (8)
 25 Bill reduced by billions easily, say (6)
 26 Land accepting male Yankee that's omnipotent (8)
 27 Former times with good individual (6)

DOWN

- 1 Wizard faction seizes power opportunity (8)
 2 Clipper that's comparatively fine, we're told (7)
 3 Crease new cloth (5)
 5 Have promises broken, causing too much stress (12)
 6 Cherished walk to keep positive (9)
 7 Name the volatile gas (7)
 8 Poet penning lines with daughter in home (6)
 11 Fish wet on front of boat before trawler gets emptied out (7,5)
 15 Soldiers fighting — sound worthwhile? (9)
 16 Lovely area on island with cane coming up (8)
 18 Fishing bait from bowl upset over room (7)
 19 Very active month egotist admits (2,3,2)
 20 Heavenly state you reported with first-rate trophy lifted (6)
 23 Child's pirate top in yellow (5)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,553

C	O	N	S	E	R	V	A	T	I	O	N	I	S	T
O	O	N	A	E	N	M	O							
M	U	S	T	A	N	G	M	E	G	A	B	I	T	
M	T	C	U	P	A	I	H							
E	G	R	E	T	E	X	E	C	R	A	B	L	E	
R	U	M												
C	O	M	P	E	N	D	I	A	C	O	S	T	A	
I														
A	R	G	O	T	G	R	E	E	N	B	E	A	N	
L	A	G	O	T	P									
B	E	N	C	H	M	A	R	K	R	O	T	O	R	
R	A	A	D	O	A	I	B							
E	N	C	O	R	E	D	O	R	L	A	N	D	O	
A	H	P	L	N	T	C	R							
K	E	E	P	O	N	E	S	S	H	I	R	T	O	N

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