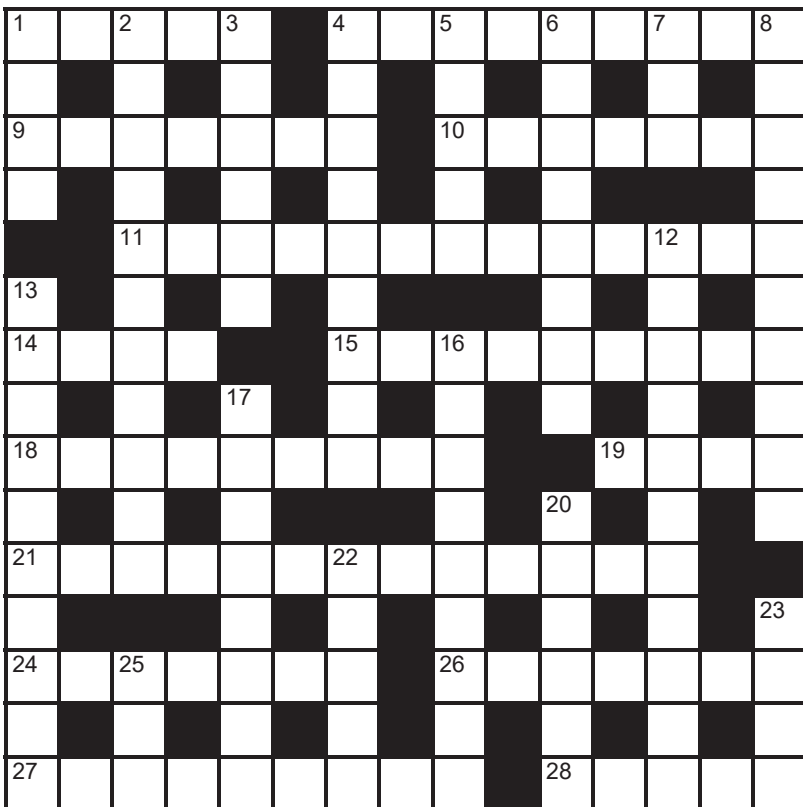


CROSSWORD

No 17,579 Set by ARTEXLEN



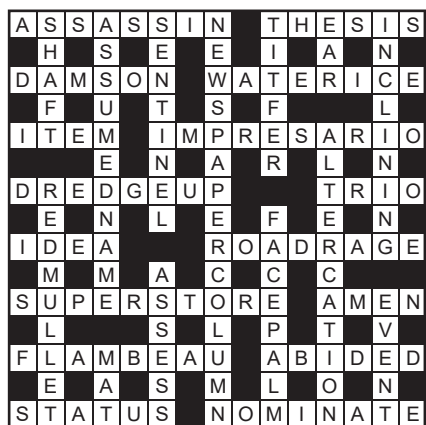
ACROSS

- 1 Manager contracted by Switzerland's engineering firm (5)
- 4 Brief observed after leader in Scotland showed respect formally (9)
- 9 Difficult to bear duck in a stew, but not heart (7)
- 10 Stint carrying Jack half-cut up snow-covered track (3,4)
- 11 Team rush around? Sum up business benefit (5,8)
- 14 Bird beginning to leave small stream (4)
- 15 Patriot regularly backed by politicians making speeches (9)
- 18 Knowledge of areas circulating with news (9)
- 19 Unsettled about holding exercise class (4)
- 21 Pit-worker beyond angry recalled dismissal he questions (5-8)
- 24 Some characters involved with artiste, phenomenal man (7)
- 26 Guided around old reservation, almost spotted camouflaged beast (7)
- 27 Names of three chaps removed from play (9)
- 28 Intimate time back in office admitted by former prime minister (5)

DOWN

- 1 Sounds of disapproval when intoxicating liquor's picked up (4)
- 2 Unfortunately, peat's too wet for tropical plant (5,6)
- 3 Marsupial overturned in grass brings us cheer (6)
- 4 Odd bits of crabs I'm hesitant to put in fish dish (9)
- 5 Our leader casually cycled from the Emerald Isle (5)
- 6 Start introducing enchanting lady to lad (6,2)
- 7 Reported one that's fleeced crossword solver (3)
- 8 Acting as decision maker resolved dispute in golf (10)
- 12 A French worker pinching this setter's alcohol is petty (11)
- 13 Minor route leading to sheds for sows (10)
- 16 Gathered fool ran after me going north (9)
- 17 That woman's atop church, the Spanish stargazer (8)
- 20 Snitch exposed ring, supporting spy boss (6)
- 22 10-0 upset that makes little contribution to atmosphere (5)
- 23 Editor grumpy scratching bottom that's irritable (4)
- 25 Death from top falling in cave (3)

Solution 17,577



JOTTER PAD



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