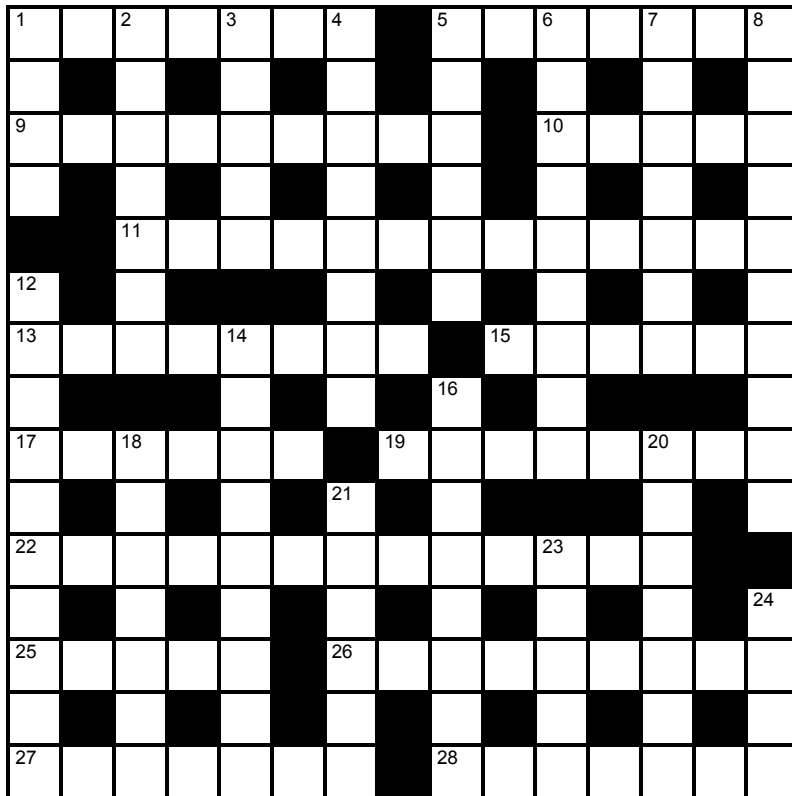


## NTSPP - 057 by Qix



### Across

- 1** Soldiers involved in playing drums for Colonel? (7)  
**5** Heading for shed (7)  
**9** Hotel girls dance exotically, without nudity at first (9)  
**10** Writer from French opposition (5)  
**11** You or I, perhaps, join profession (13)  
**13** Swift destruction of Port Said? (8)  
**15** Way to return opera to large venues (6)  
**17** Police surround empty house of Egyptian leader (6)  
**19** Game with 23

- between the French and English (8)  
**22** Two fools lead one country to liquidation (13)  
**25** Saving without a minimum (5)  
**26** Sell off, i.e. vast rip-off? (9)  
**27** One who fleeces ex-footballer? (7)  
**28** For the audience, I tax 12 (7)
- Down**  
**1** Mineral found in outskirts of Minorca (4)  
**2** Fish with small head (7)

- 3** A plane with oxygen for China? (5)  
**4** Brownie points out accommodation? (8)  
**5** Polyclitus, primarily, is an old sculptor (6)  
**6** Memorable day for socialist landlord (3-6)  
**7** Non-believer drops penny inside the circle (7)  
**8** Fanciful Greek atlas showing Michigan and Ontario, for example (5,5)  
**12** Whip mushrooms up on the French shows (10)

- 14** Medic holds unusual isotope for investor (9)  
**16** Acne? Mail-ordered lotion (8)  
**18** Catch sloppy tanneries missing it out (7)  
**20** English teacher and students get up at dawn (7)  
**21** Preserve DNA dropped by criminal (6)  
**23** Angry hijacker needs no introduction (5)  
**24** A sly look at "The King's Speech"? (4)