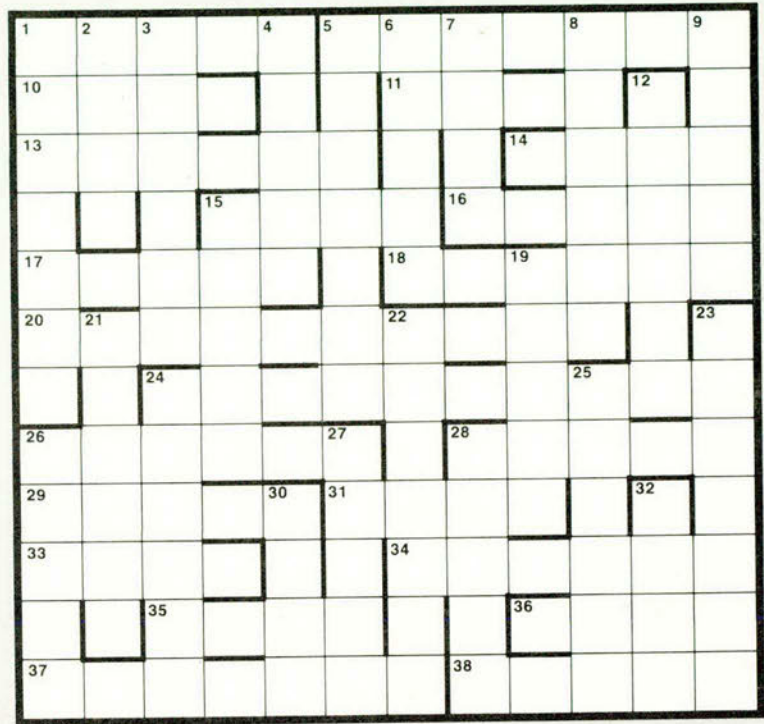


THE ATLANTIC PUZZLER

BY EMILY COX AND HENRY RATHVON

PROCRUSTEAN BED

Like the bedroom guests of the legendary Procrustes, every clue must be shortened or stretched to fit into its resting place in the grid. Every alteration is made by dropping or adding a single letter at the front or back of an answer, always forming a new word to be entered in the diagram. Clue answers include four proper nouns; diagram entries include seven proper nouns.



The solution to last month's Puzzler appears on page 123.

ACROSS

1. Bee workers in ditches
5. Dries a fluid up
10. Metallic noise in prison
11. Time of wind song
13. Outlaws eating an American fruit
14. Wash lance off
15. Sneak \$100 to spy from the other side
16. Hardy is a patriot
17. Our uncle has left sock
18. Group of 50 caught by Wild West general
20. Outside of New Hampshire, experimentally operate with a kind of surgery (*hyphenated*)
24. Revoke order on damn truce
26. In tidal wave, Navy is carried
28. Family member cracked a nut

29. Mouthpieces for computer info
31. Boat comes from receding waters
33. Bad men do something evil
34. Point to ump with hesitation
35. Hammer with no head on shelf
36. Hat with dubious merit
37. Rescuer cradles head of little fawn
38. Odd new rocks on the ground

DOWN

1. Within limit, train makes connection
2. String in wet tangles
3. Softball team fit with sufficient defense?
4. Heated conflict with military's leader
5. Table overturned in crooked room
6. Tomb with large stones

7. Pat's endless worries
8. Desperately hate the middle of "The Wasteland"
9. Lunatic rode in with moolah
12. Land, for crying out loud
15. A newscast's debut televised soon
19. Gin is run in spigot
21. Dressed in a toga, fellow dropped out of Roman bed
22. Prize in astrophysics
23. Coin phrase at last: "color-focused"
24. Translate "merci" wrong
25. Bungling assault nets fast five bucks
26. A poem's about bee dwellings
27. Rock's sound is fresher
28. Hills of a strange sort
30. Circles mature Indian
32. Measure top of maple tree inaccurately

Note: The instructions above are for this month's puzzle only. It is assumed that you know how to decipher clues. For a complete introduction to clue-solving, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to The Atlantic Puzzler, 8 Arlington Street, Boston, Mass. 02116.