

by John de Cuevas

Instructions: The words defined by the cryptic clues are to be entered normally in the puzzle grid (in which heavy bars separate entries), except that ten across words and ten down words won't fit unless a letter from each is omitted. The twenty omitted letters, taken in order, spell five words related to the unclued across entry in the center of the grid. Answers include one proper name and one two-word phrase.

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Across

- 1 Voter hearing of municipal meditation
- 7 Fix Reagan about right
- 13 Building around ruin takes time
- 14 King of maritime beasts?
- 15 In mild mood, had supper
- 16 Bean is effective as seed bearer
- 17 Small German article serves as gardening tool
- 18 Fellow actor's breakdown
- 28 Cares or wires crossed
- 31 Officer core, so to speak
- 33 Bind spheroidal to center of weight
- 34 Acid element holds Ann
- 35 Toilets open early, not restricted
- 36 Criminal infection
- 37 Fold right in; stop
- 38 Take up and insert
- 39 Time opening river

Down

- 1 Fossil fuel with right color
- 2 Big guy sounds like he just doesn't relax 30 Bird from Carib islands
- 3 Garment negation held by muscular contraction

- 4 Clues this confused should get new start
- 5 Get value for *Crimson* with ease, say, 1000
- 6 Identity of Pan-American
- 7 A person is upset by slander
- 8 Grass instrument
- 9 Brought up; stood up
- 10 Wing-like axillary
- 11 Relative English in a French town
- 12 Taxon failure among certain ungulates
- 19 First of terrestrial fish to snarl
- 20 One mean wild flower
- 21 Made another loan yield
- 22 Pivotal kind of bear
- 23 Field of action found in bare nature
- 24 This dish is a ringer with an early start
- 25 Metal form entry achieved
- 26 Struma: one who leaves with it
- 27 Sanitize germ on dealer
- 28 Keep an eye on time keeper
- 29 Grünewald's letter
- 31 Hear actor's status
- 32 Not taken as opposed to right

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