

**ACROSS**

- 1 Secular (7)  
 5 Deserve, earn (5)  
 8 Hours of darkness (5)  
 9 Fatty substance from wool (7)  
 10 Mountain emitting lava and gas (7)  
 11 Joke-teller (5)  
 12 Make a connection (6)  
 14 Sliding fastener (6)  
 18 Anchor firmly (5)  
 20 Insects with hard wing-cases (7)  
 22 \_\_\_ pants, women's loose-fitting trousers (7)  
 23 Private teacher (5)  
 24 In foliage (5)  
 25 Graph, chart (7)

**DOWN**

- 1 Persuade (3,4)  
 2 Fit for a king (5)  
 3 \_\_\_ from, diminish (7)  
 4 Colour of one of a referee's cards (6)  
 5 Frenzied, crazy (5)  
 6 Pickled herring (7)  
 7 Gin mixer (5)  
 13 Garden plant with blue flowers, often trailing (7)  
 15 Force preventing movement (7)  
 16 Dais (7)  
 17 Overseas (6)  
 18 Ban from school (5)  
 19 Affected by heights (5)  
 21 At some future time (5)

by **Puzzler Media**