ACROSS
1 Italian political thinker imprisoned by Mussolini whose writings include his *Prison Notebooks* (7,7)
2 American showman who became the first man to fly an aeroplane in Britain in 1908 (6,4)
3 Rudolf, German engineer who invented a type of internal combustion engine (6)
4 A follower of the principles of Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov (8)
5 A car brand and division of the US company General Motors (9)
6 French ophthalmologist who invented the chart to test visual acuity (9,7)
7 US plants with fruit shaped like a protective sewing cap (11)
8 Spanish director whose films include *All About My Mother* and *Volver* (5,9)

DOWN
1 Novel by Charles Dickens published in 1859 (1,4,2,3,6)
2 Like a bull (7)
3 A facetious term for a dental surgeon (8)
4 A sun-dried lean meat (7)
5 Wet and dank (5)
6 A car brand and division of the US company General Motors (9)
7 French ophthalmologist who invented the chart to test visual acuity (9,7)
8 Spanish director whose films include *All About My Mother* and *Volver* (5,9)
9 Discrimination on grounds of social rank (8)
10 Private university in New Orleans (6)
11 Bantu language spoken in East Africa (7)
12 A fabled city of South America rich in treasure (2,6)
13 Member of a secret male fraternity divided into lodges (9)
14 Private university in New Orleans (6)
15 Bantu language spoken in East Africa (7)
16 A fabled city of South America rich in treasure (2,6)
17 A sun-dried lean meat (7)
18 Captain of the West Indies cricket team that won the World Cup in 1975 and 1979 (5,5)
19 A car brand and division of the US company General Motors (9)
20 The dross left by metal smelting (6)
21 Latin expression meaning at will (2,7)
22 Andrey, a pioneering Russian aircraft designer (7)
23 Part of a passenger ship with the lowest fares (8)
24 Viscountess who became the first woman to take a seat in the House of Commons in 1919 (5)
25 A -------- partner, someone who has money invested in a business but takes no part in its management (8)
26 A light-bodied red wine (6)
27 Captain of the West Indies cricket team that won the World Cup in 1975 and 1979 (5,5)
28 Spanish director whose films include *All About My Mother* and *Volver* (5,9)