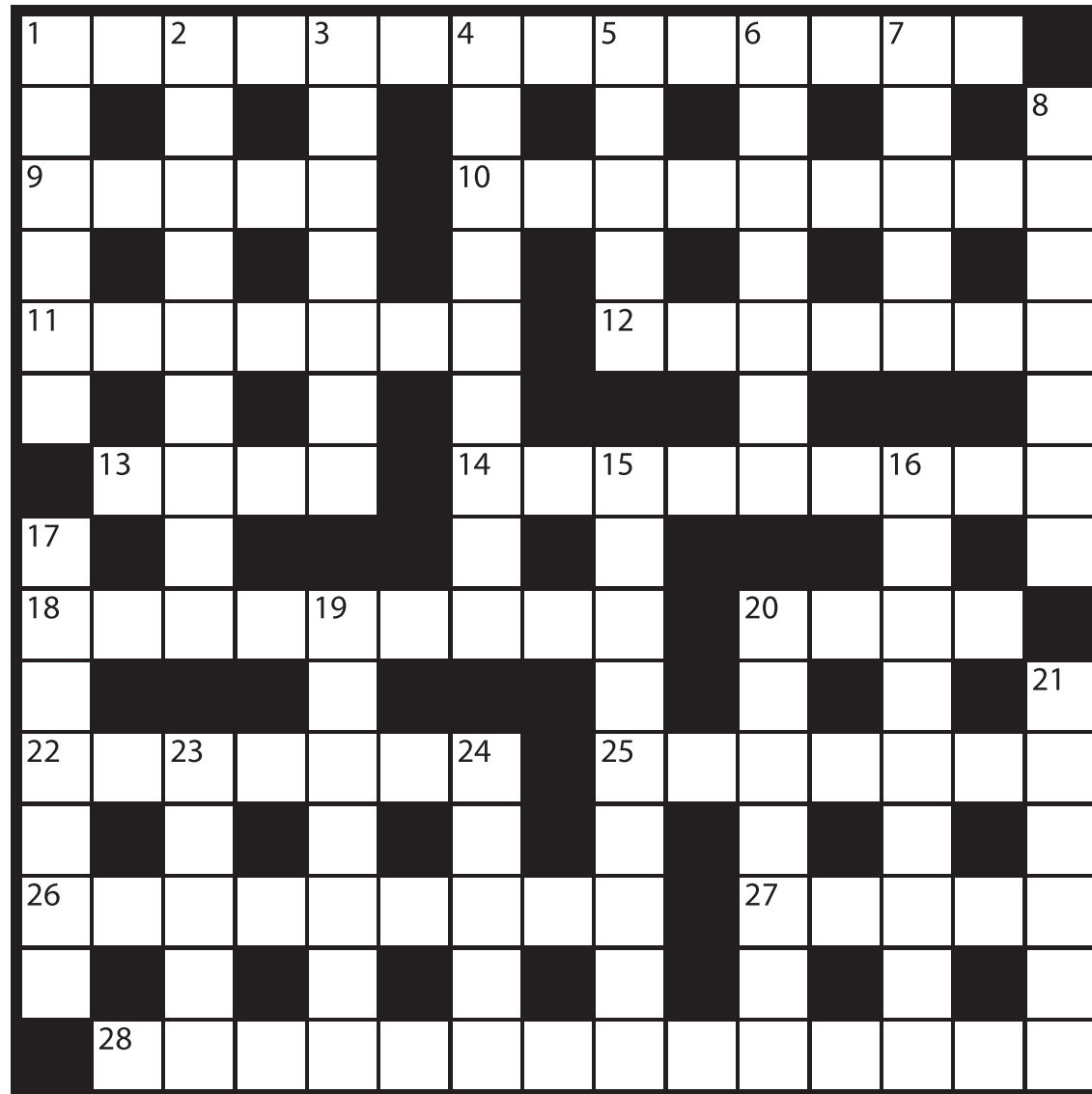


ACROSS

- 1 The most quiet? (6,8)
- 9 Sikh headwear leader removed in the town (5)
- 10 Breathe excitedly at vital rhythm (9)
- 11 Escort a damaged vessel (7)
- 12 Rationing, where shilling going fast (7)
- 13 Walk unsteadily, but there's some small improvement (4)
- 14 Separate stone game (9)
- 18 Plant I landed on, crashing (9)
- 20 Perform or entrance (4)
- 22 Bill's descriptive report (7)
- 25 Urge fee amendment for exile (7)
- 26 Skilled boatswain? (9)
- 27 Weight of a leopard (5)
- 28 Claim parachute is mixture of drugs (14)

DOWN

- 1 Cuts back on firm plaster (6)
- 2 Book-keeper making sign to king in a mess (9)
- 3 New on Street, work without a break (3-4)
- 4 I am harsh, I upset spiritual leader (9)
- 5 In France, John has small trousers (5)
- 6 Withdraw reference to pamphlet (7)
- 7 Diverting back round fountain (5)
- 8 Move heavily to avoid a rush (7)
- 15 Sort of weather forecast for the Rockies? (4-5)
- 16 Origin can become artificial (9)
- 17 Go forward to get loan (7)
- 19 Rotate torque around a global line (7)



- 20 Remove ice from soft red nuts (7)
- 21 A lever designed to take the lid off (6)
- 23 Train or bus (5)
- 24 Noisily interfere with American resort (5)