

**ACROSS**

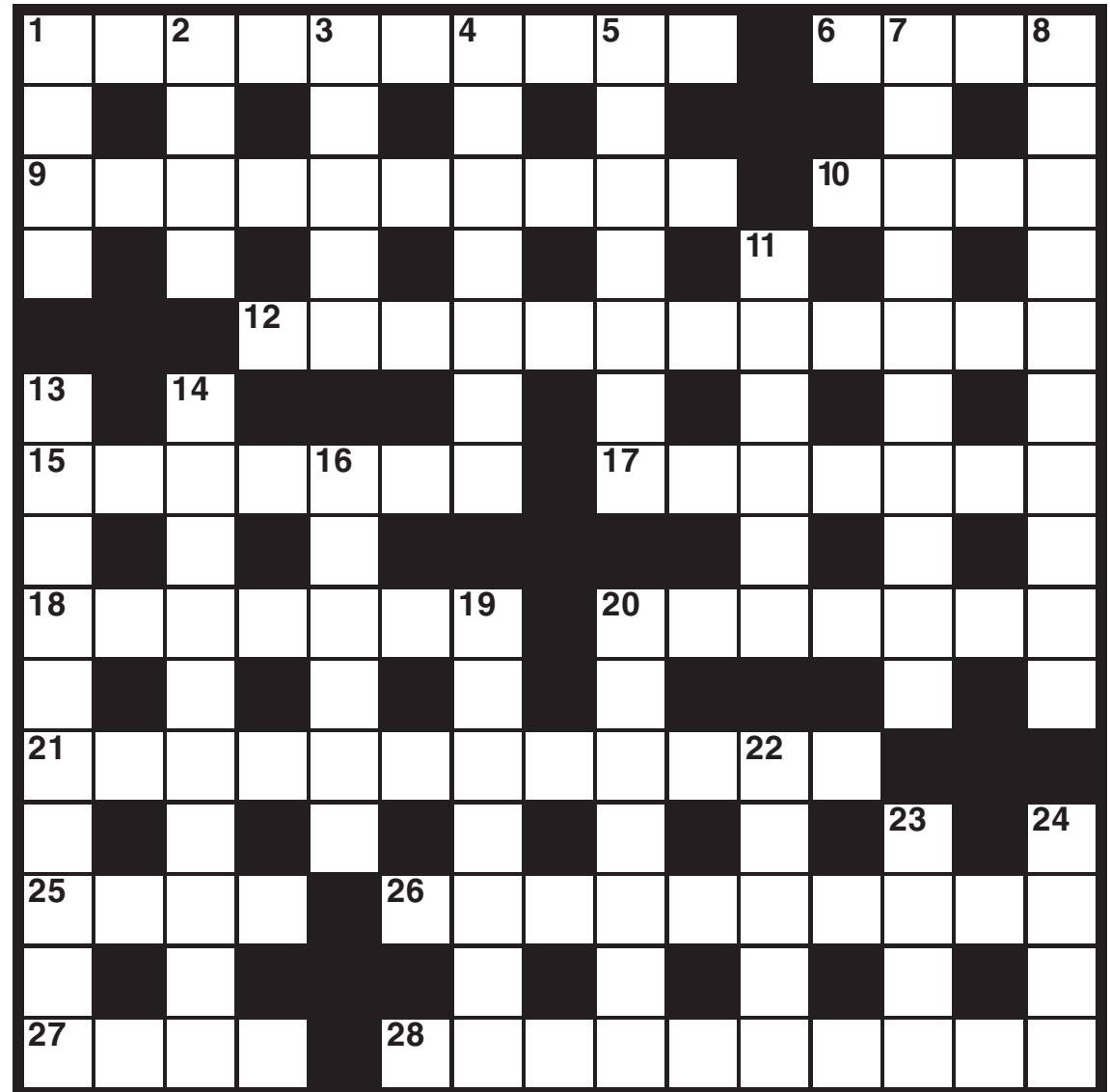
- 1 Drastic reduction of medication, perhaps (10)  
 6 Manager sobs uncontrollably (4)  
 9 Prince takes heavyweight to the dance (10)  
 10 Some are most irate to wake from sleep (4)  
 12 Theatre's head operator? (5,7)  
 15 Clear another New York theft (7)  
 17 Decoration had shortly, we hear,  
 been interfered with (7)  
 18 Stuffing most of side into aeroplane part (7)  
 20 Lad in pain is a knightly figure (7)  
 21 Afloat apparently (2,3,7)  
 25 Left nothing with an advance (4)  
 26 Made resentful, having beer in Eastern  
 Mediterranean (10)  
 27 From the sound of it, regretted being impolite (4)  
 28 To use horse going round the depot (10)

**DOWN**

- 1 Love bird (4)  
 2 Cover for firm at last (4)  
 3 Back-biter? (5)  
 4 Irritable if held to bear witness (7)  
 5 Work – outstanding amount for a small creature (7)  
 7 Deteriorating like a child in the playground? (2,3,5)  
 8 In danger 'e's moving whilst singing lovingly (10)  
 11 To do with weddings in a hybrid alliance (6)  
 13 Surprisingly, he might get the batsmen  
 out quickly! (4,6)  
 14 Believe eccentric to have a means of payment (6,4)  
 16 Prepared for publication – it is indeed corrected (6)

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- 19 More gut trouble for the connoisseur (7)  
 20 More swollen up if ref gets fouled (7)  
 22 Seize Tom on top of church (5)  
 23 Your duty to curb language (4)  
 24 Move slowly to the border (4)