

PLAY BALL! *(Like it's 1861)* P. 70

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Down East

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WHAT'S IN A PICTURE



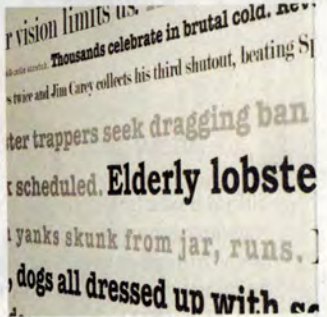
LAKE EFFECT

The lure of a cool, clear Maine lake will make a person do crazy things. Especially in early summer, when it's finally warm enough to put the boat in, pull your trunks on, and go waterskiing with your German shepherd. Wait, what? This postcard pic comes to us from 1950, a simpler time, when a man and his dog could (apparently) take a few laps around Kezar Lake without raising eyebrows. We don't know who this fellow is or why he's skiing with Rin Tin Tin, but it's no mystery why he chose Kezar Lake. Ringed with pines and the foothills of the White Mountains, the jewel of Lovell is one of Maine's finest places to while away a summer afternoon.

Not surprisingly, Kezar Lake is encircled by camps, inns, and lodges, and this month, innkeeper Janice Sage will give hers away, announcing the winner of her nationally publicized essay contest. It's how Sage herself won the lakeside Center Lovell Inn in 1993 (and her contest has spawned at least one copycat, a woman in Whitefield bestowing 47 wooded acres on the most eloquent essayist). Sage hopes at least 7,500 people will pay \$125 to submit 200 words explaining why they would pull up stakes to become instant innkeepers. And why not? The lure of a Maine lake will make a person do crazy things. — B.K.

TWIN LOBSTER

In March's North by East, we ran a tongue-in-cheek illustration of the "lobstersexual," a (totally made-up) fashion trend of hip, urban wannabe-lobstermen. We did not expect the item would go viral (our post on downeast.com was viewed more than 40,000 times in four days!). And we definitely didn't expect to hear from West Kennebunk native-turned-Chicagoan Matthew Weiss (@zendropout), who tweeted us with this spitting-image selfie. Living proof that you can take the boy out of Maine, but you can't take Maine out of the boy.



READ ALL ABOUT IT

A handful of the weirder headlines found in the wallpaper of the Press Hotel, which opens this month in Portland, and which architects and interior designers Stonehill & Taylor have filled with sly nods to the building's former life as headquarters of the *Portland Press Herald*:

- ELDERLY LOBSTER SET FREE**
- THIS TIME, DOGS ALL DRESSED UP WITH SOMEPLACE TO GO**
- SEALS FROM NORTH REPORTEDLY MOVING DOWN MAINE COAST**
- HONEST WARDEN, THE DOE REALLY HAD AN ANTLER**

Headlines you won't find in the clever wallpaper lining the boutique hotel's hallways: those lamenting deadly structure fires in downtown Portland. It turns out that burning buildings took up a lot of column inches in the early days of the 153-year-old *Press Herald*, and the designers' first attempt to adorn the walls with historical headlines included a few that hotel guests might find, um, unnerving. More editorial oversight was applied to the wallpaper's final draft.

COLLECTIONS OF MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (KEZAR LAKE); CHRISTINE MITCHELL ADAMS (LOBSTERSEXUAL ILLUSTRATION); PHOTO BY IRVIN SERRANO, COURTESY OF THE PRESS HOTEL (WALLPAPER)