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# Andre Is Smart

ROCKPORT—Andre, Harry Goodridge' pet seal, travels far, but always returns home.

Harry, as usual, turned Andre loose in Rockport Harbor Monday night. Tuesday Andre was seen beyond Camden Harbor, by Harold Young, Camden fisherman.

Young told Goodridge that he was sure it was Andre because the seal persisted in staying directly in front of the boat so that Young had to stop rowing.

Andre was back at the Rockport landing Wednesday morning waiting to be taken home for a nap.

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RICHARDSON SAID there is evidence that seals used to wreak havoc when sardines were taken in weirs, by "driving" the fish causing them to rim-rack the nets. That doesn't happen much anymore because most of the sardining is done with purse seines out at sea. But seals once were fair game to weirman.

The lobstermen's claim that seals eat their catch just doesn't hold up, according to Canadian studies of food from seal stomachs, Richardson said. So fishermen have no reason for shooting the playful animals.

"The intelligence of a seal is difficult to question," Richardson said. "His evolution seems to involve a highly developed sensory system.

"The visual, olfactory, hearing and motor coordination all no doubt have a correlation to its sense of environment, and along with this the intelligence to cope with it."

He has visited Andre's cage and believes Andre's "response to voice command is remarkable. The Navy (which viewed Andre and another seal at Rockport) would agree harbor seals are very intelligent, as they have found in killer whales and the porpoise."

OF USING A harness for a radio transmitter, Richardson thinks its use by Andre "could be a matter of training him to it" by Goodridge. But he would not hazard a guess on whether a wild seal would tolerate it.

Richardson plans more studies of the Maine seals. He thinks the primary emphasis should be

# Ephrata teacher fulfills wish to relive spring trip to Maine

Last spring, first graders in Rosalie Zehm's Columbia Ridge classroom embarked on a "make-believe" bus trip to Maine to learn about the country and visit Andre the seal, honorary harbor master at Rockport.

This summer, Miss Zehm carried out in "real life" what her students had done with a little imagination and lots of enthusiasm: visited Maine and Andre the seal in person.

While in Rockport, Miss Zehm and her friend, Wally Westwig of South Portland, Maine, met Andre's owner-trainer, Harry Goodridge. Goodridge also wrote a book about the well-known seal, which was adapted into a popular children's book that is read by youngsters throughout the country, including the Columbia Ridge students.

Miss Zehm's class corresponded with Goodridge last spring when they were reading about Andre and their drawings of the seal, which were sent along with the letter, were taken to a first grade classroom in Camden, Maine, taught by Jan Staples. The drawings started a cross-country correspondence project between Ephrata and Camden.

After arriving in Maine, Miss Zehm and Ms. Westwig drove to Camden to meet Mrs. Staples, who had a special gift for the visitors. She gave Miss Zehm a photograph clipped from the Camden newspaper showing herself and two of her students holding souvenir items from the May 18 eruption of Mount St. Helens which were sent by the Ephrata teacher.

Arriving in Rockport, the two travelers discovered that Andre the seal is quite a tourist attraction. People line the shoreline in Rockport just to catch a glimpse of the seal performing tricks in the harbor, Miss Zehm said. Goodridge travels by boat to Andre's pen to start the seal through his paces.

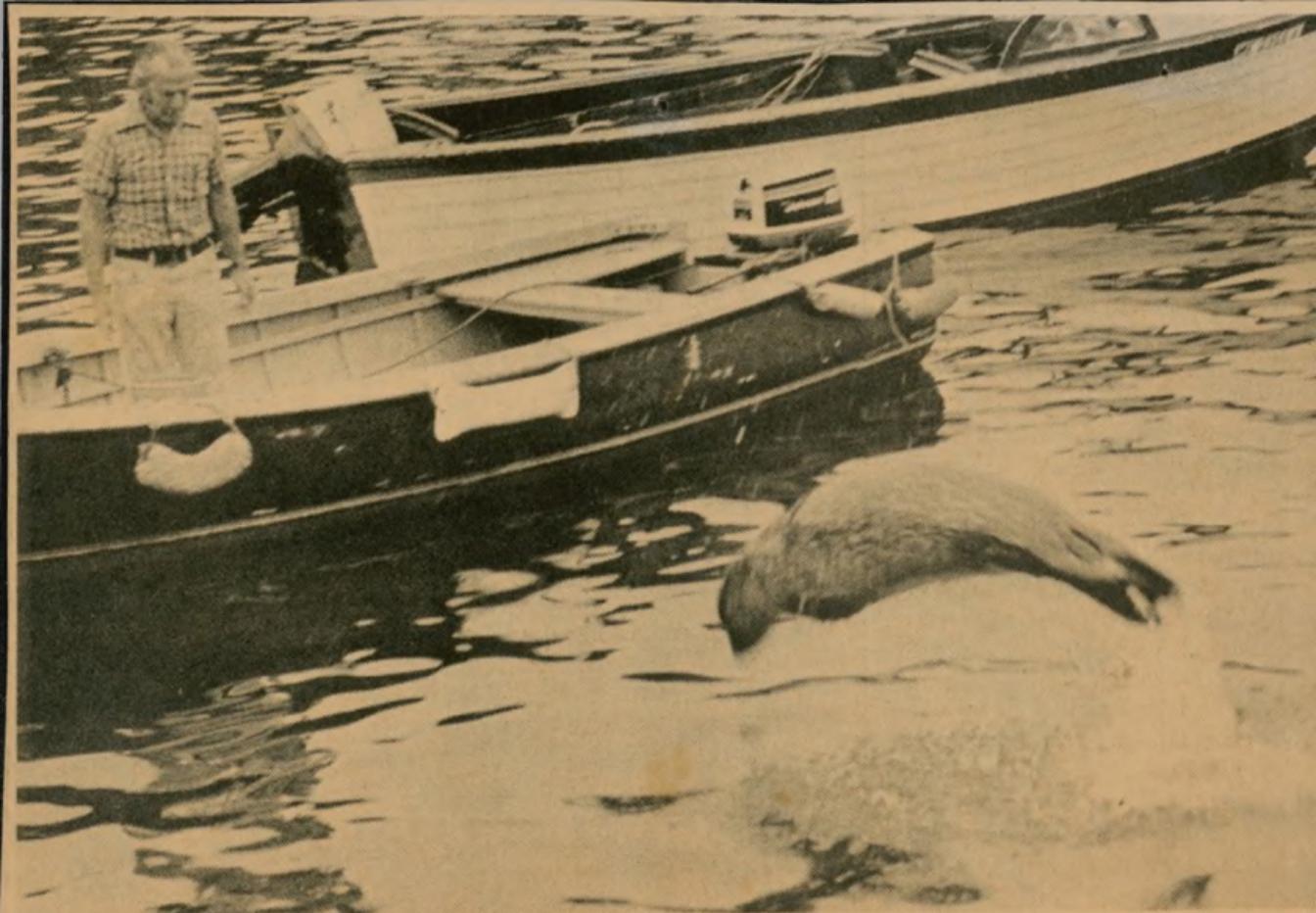
While Andre was performing for the crowd, Miss Zehm said she wished her former students were there to witness the event.

"I wanted to share my joy. It was so fun and exciting," she

said. She noted that she planned to tell her former students about the experience.

Miss Zehm introduced herself to Goodridge following Andre's performance. He remembered her students' letter and drawings and commented that if he had known she was there in the crowd, he would have invited her to get a close-up look at Andre in his harbor pen, she said.

The Ephrata teacher says she plans to continue corresponding with Goodridge and Mrs. Staples. She is currently reading the book about Andre the seal to her kindergarten students. (The book was sent by Ms. Westwig last fall.) And anyone who would like to borrow the book may borrow the book, she said.



**JUMP, ANDRÉ** — André the Seal performs his act, as he does every night, to benefit the Camden Community Hospital's Fund Drive for its new nursing home.



*It's overboard for Andre.*

(Item Photo: Hoey)

# *Andre's trip draws 500*

By **PATRICIA BABCOCK**

**MARBLEHEAD**—Seal mania raged in town Tuesday as a record crowd of nearly 500 men, women and children pressed against the railings of State Street Wharf to catch a glimpse of Andre, a nationally famous mammal with humble beginnings in Marblehead waters.

A carnival atmosphere prevailed as tots licked ice cream cones, State and

Front Street merchants peeked from storefront windows and police kept an eye on traffic, anticipating a jam from the spread of news that Andre was back in town.

The scene was a far cry from past years, when Andre's launching for his swim to his summer home in Rockport, Harbor, Maine was a rather practical

See **ANDRE**, Page 8

dumping off the float for the purpose of assessing his homing instinct.

In those days he was trucked by trainer Harry Goodridge of Rockport Harbor, who adopted him as a baby because he was in want of a diving partner.

A slick New England Aquarium van brought Andre to the wharf Tuesday, as rumors spread through the crowd that because of the large turnout, the seal's plunge into the harbor would be diverted to the Marblehead Transportation Co. Wharf.

But he came to the publicized destination 30 minutes behind schedule. The word was also passed through the spectators that the delay was due to Andre's reluctance to leave the seal tank of the New England Aquarium, where he winters

and enjoys his role as the darling of aquarium visitors.

Andre showed traces of becoming a fat cat. He was quite a bit porkier than he appeared on our visit to his floating cage in the small Maine Harbor last summer.

"He's gotten fat, you know," confirmed Goodridge as we chatted on the wharf after Andre's departure.

Because of the mammal's newly acquired girth, Harry thinks it might take him longer than his record three days to make the trip to Rockport.

"He likes to hang around Marblehead a bit too you know," continued the trainer and adoptive daddy of the seal, who was autographing his book on his remarkable life with the 13-year-old diving companion

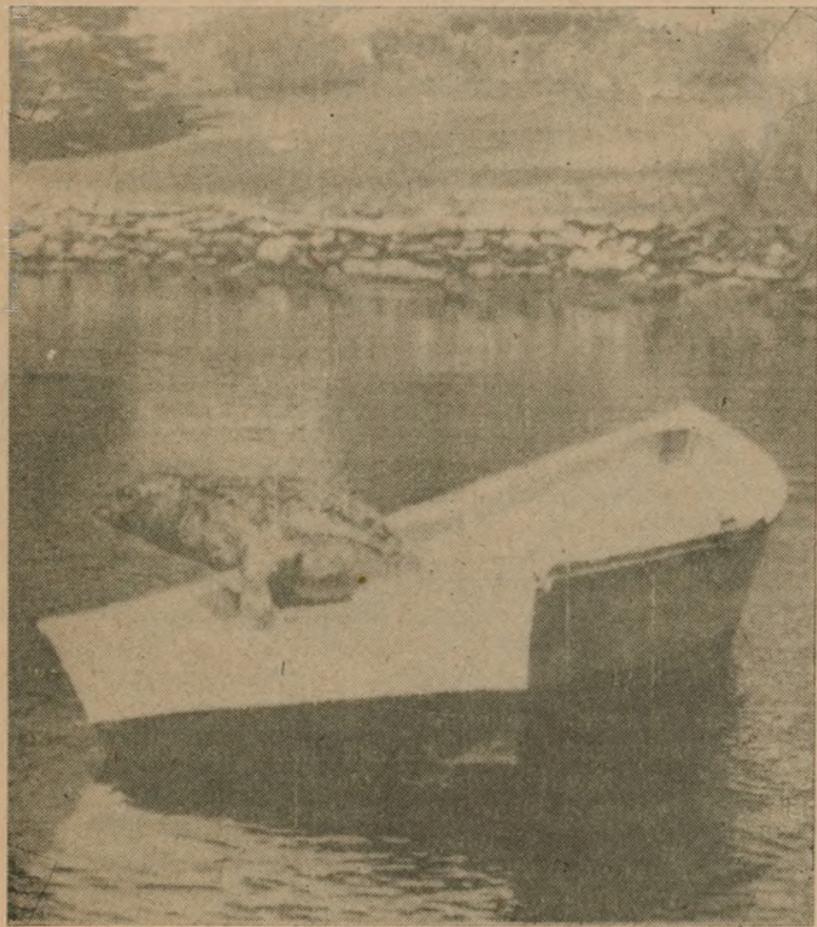
who one year ago tipped the scales at 240.

"Hope he doesn't nip any knees this year," reflected the taciturn Goodridge, who himself had no training to become a trainer and turned Andre into quite a showman. Last year Andre stayed in Marblehead long enough to give a somewhat friendly bite to the knee of an aquarium worker at a local beach.

Andre, before spending his winters at the aquarium, left Harry and Rockport Harbor from time to time during the cold months, showing up in Marblehead waters. He was dubbed "Josephine" by the townspeople before his sex and identity became known, and an irate citizenry even petitioned selectmen to nullify the bounty on seals to protect his life.

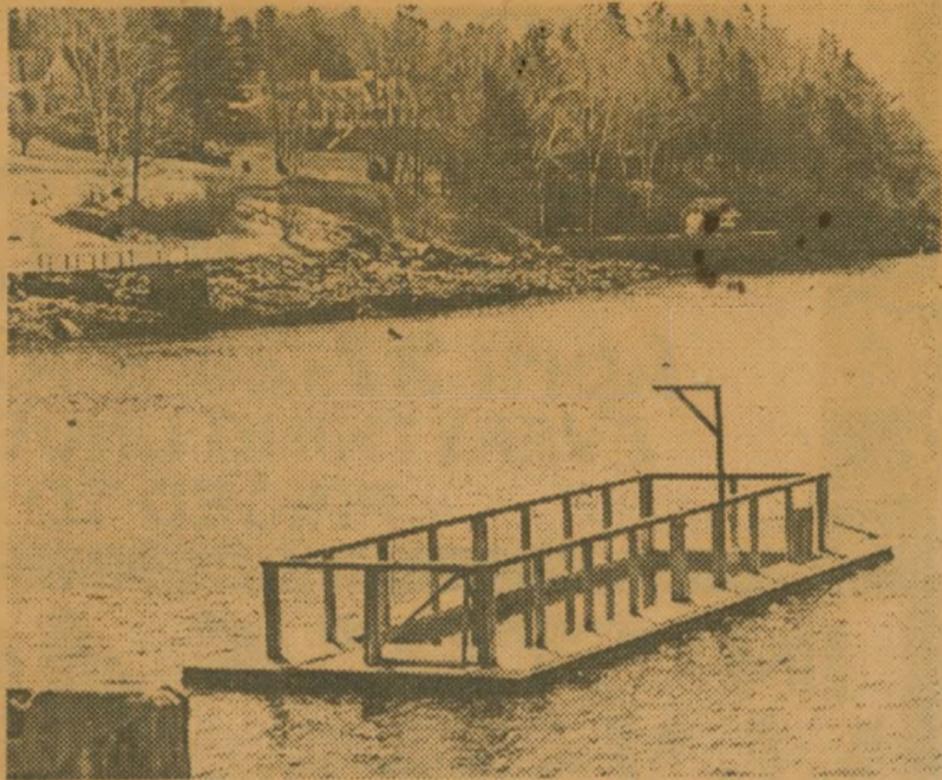
Please note other side.  
Andre gets ↘

## AROUND THE WORLD



### *Rest stop*

Andre, the seal commandered a dory in South Bristol, Maine, over the weekend to make a rest stop about 40 miles from his summer home at Rockport, Maine. The internationally-publicized sea mammal was released in the ocean at Marblehead, Mass., on Wednesday after spending the winter at the new England Aquarium in Boston. (AP)



Jean Freedman photo

## *The Andre watch*

**Andre's pen in Rockport Harbor is empty, awaiting the arrival of the town's favorite seal. Andre shoved off Tuesday from Cape Cod after a plane trip from his Mystic, Conn. winter home, and began the 230-mile swim to his summer "camp" here.**

**AIR MALE:** Super-seal Andre, king of the New England Aquarium, swam in May from Marblehead to Rockport, Maine.

But owner Harry Goodridge is bringing back Andre in style to his winter digs in the Aquarium's seal pool.

Andre rockets from Rockport in his own privately chartered Down-east Airways plane Wednesday, will be whisked out of Logan Airport in the Aquarium van for the trek back to spend the holidays with the other seals.

The \$300 charter cost has been paid by Andre's fans, who send him money (in sealed envelopes?).

And Andre's cult continues. A new book about him (the second) will be available for a Christmas gift.

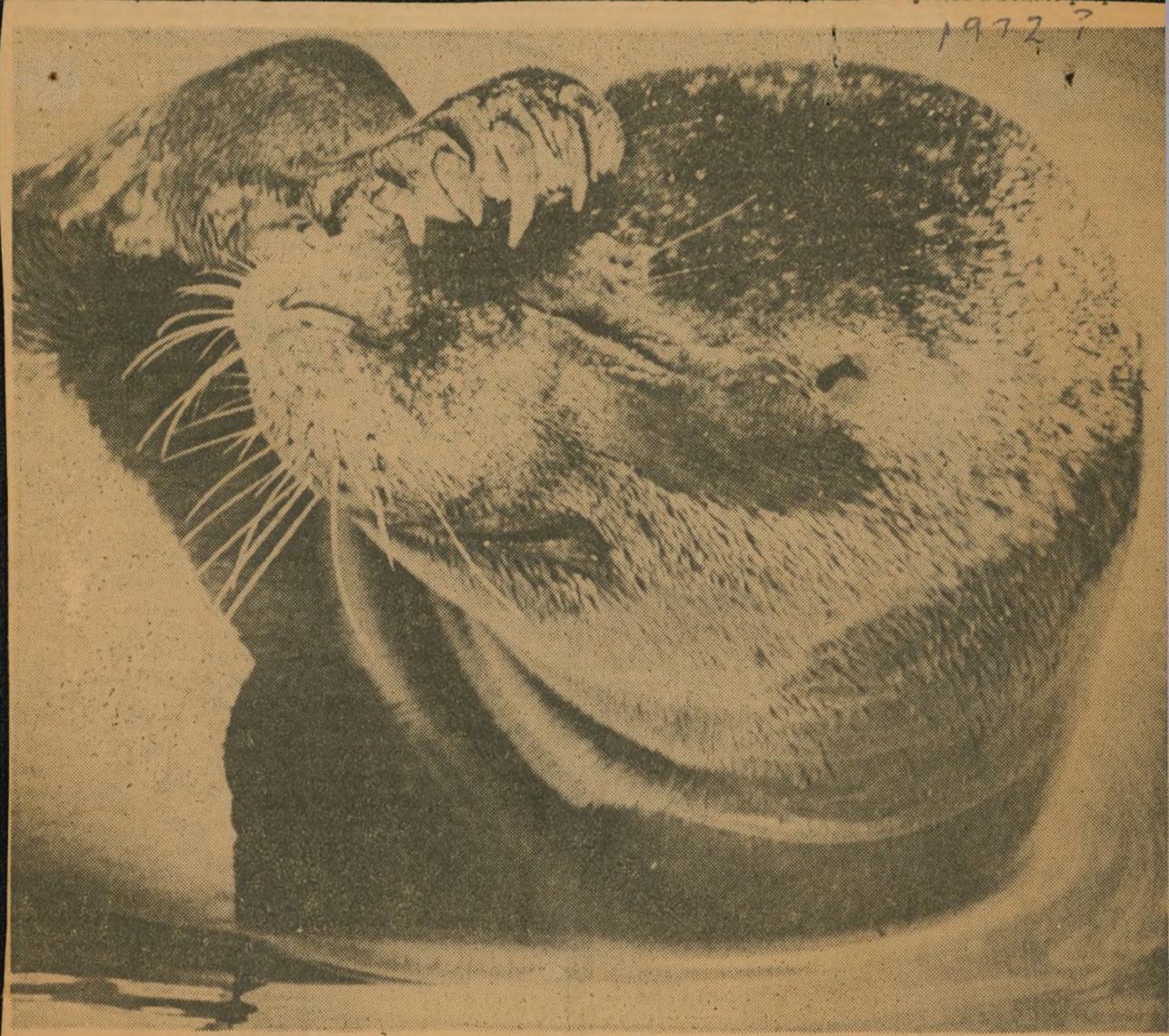
"Andre for Young Readers" by Lew Dietz will be in the stores next month, after school children everywhere demanded more about their favorite Christmas seal.

# READING EAGLE

READING, PA., FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1968

This was Amoke's reaction  
when she was told that  
Andie would not only be  
seen on T.V. but is doing  
advertising on the radio.  
Picture from a Reading, Penna.  
newspaper.

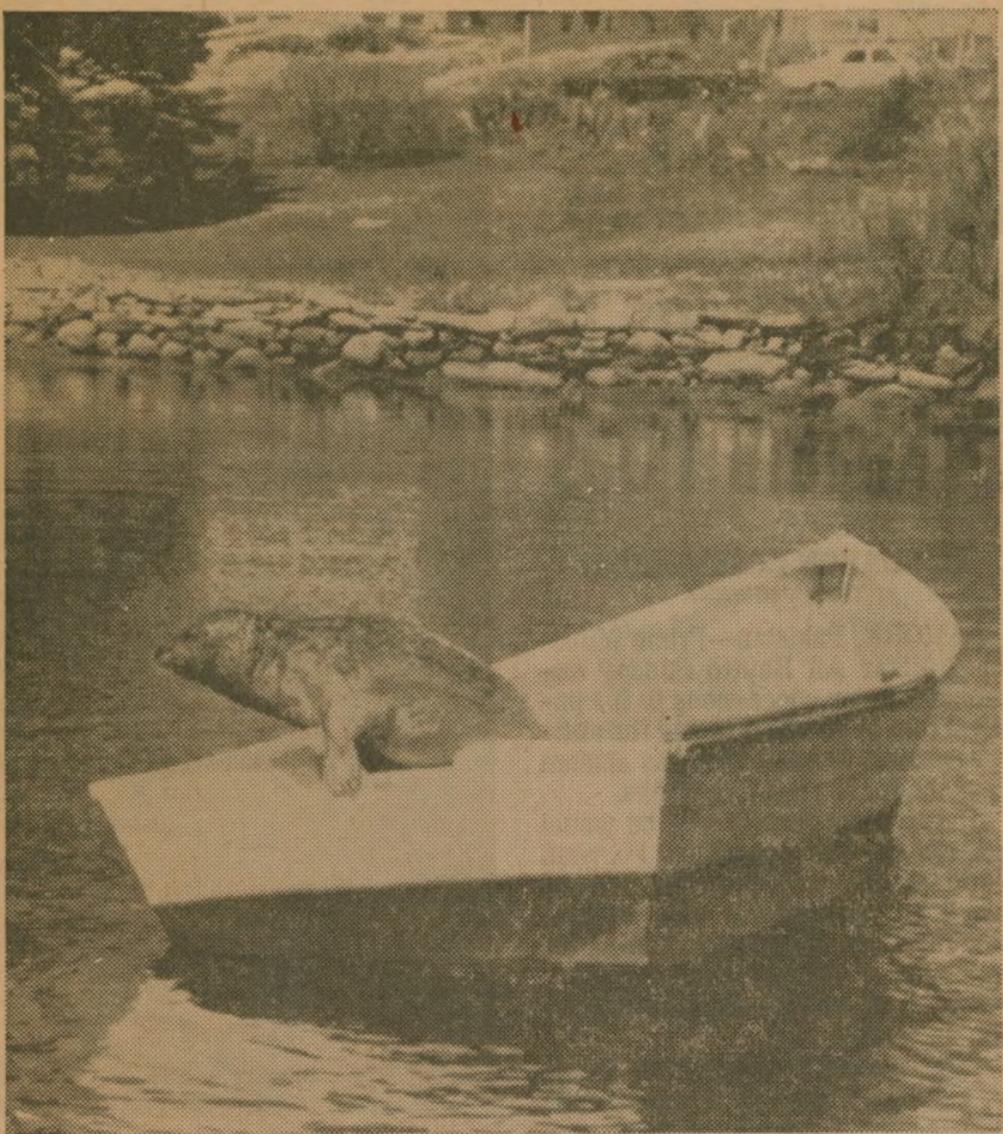
1972 ?



ANOTHER TOUGH DAY — Smoke, an eight-year-old female harbor seal, appears to have had a hard day of swimming and performing in the seal tank at

the New England Aquarium in Boston. Smoke was taken to the aquarium in 1971 after being abandoned as a pup in Maine. — AP Laserphoto.

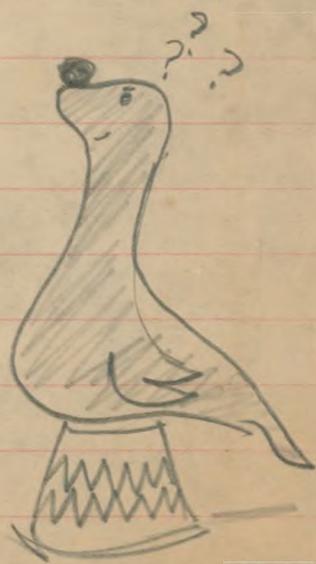
*So much expression!*



**SEALOR**—Andre the seal finds himself out of his element on a lobster pond in South Bristol, Me. Andre, a New England celebrity, was on annual migration from marine zoo in Marblehead, Mass., where he winters, to home of Harry Goodbridge in Rockport, Me., when he stopped over in South Bristol this weekend and some fishermen decided to test his rowboat prowess. Goodbridge found Andre abandoned on an offshore rock in 1961 and kept him for a time as a pet. How he finds his way home each spring is a mystery.

AP Wirephoto

Как  
Поживеешь?



Dr. Paul Montreuil  
Montreal Aquarium  
studied seals 10 yrs.  
examined 1000  
no trace of lobsters

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