Mind, Body, and Spirit: Maine’s Therapeutic Landscapes
Cover Illustration: The Congregational Church in Seal Harbor (now a private residence), was a spiritual home to John D. Rockefeller II when he summered at Seal Harbor on Mount Desert from 1908 until his death in 1960. A noted philanthropist and deeply religious man, Rockefeller hoped to reform the structure of organized Protestant religion on the island through the device of the “Larger Parish” idea. John R. Muether examines the strengths and weaknesses of the idea in our lead article. Others were active in spiritual, mental, and physical renewal in Maine. In our second article, Howard Solomon analyzes the crusade against the “social evil” in Portland, suggesting that reform in the case of prostitution was a response to threats to masculinity in America’s maturing urban-industrial society. Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai finds that letter-writing, particularly to administrators at Bowdoin College, was therapeutic for American soldiers during World War II, and finally William D. Andrews analyzes the physical and mental regimens offered by Dr. John George Gehring at his Bethel clinic as a form of “therapeutic tourism.”
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