

# Quinlan: At what price life?

The horsehair worm is a minute creature which at first looks no more exciting than a hair from a horse's tail. It lives in small ponds and seems to lead a life of leisure.

Actually its existence is more suspenseful than the best of James Bond movies. The worm begins as an egg laid in a pond with long strands of other eggs wrapped around some aquatic vegetation. The eggs hatch, and each begins a desperate search for a host, such as a dragonfly nymph, into which it can bore, then feed, grow and somehow escape.

Next the worm swims to shore and encysts on a submerged plant. With

## perspective

Friday, April 2, 1976

luck, the water level begins to drop which exposes the plant and enables a land organism, the worm's next host, to get to it. This land host (crickets, beetles and grasshoppers all serve well) must get to the encysted worm before it devours its supply of stored fat, and feed on the obliging plant, eating also, of course, the worm.

Once inside the grasshopper, cricket

or whatever, the cyst bursts and the worm emerges full length, inside the body of the grasshopper. It feeds and then bores out of the grasshopper's side.

If the stars are right, the worm falls from the grasshopper near a pond, and at the next rainfall is washed into the water where it begins the process again.

Obviously most worms are either lost, drowned, dried up or devoured long

before they reach the end of the cycle. Nevertheless, the process by which a fraction are allowed to survive makes the story of the horsehair worm one of beauty, not tragedy.

Humans are unique in their concern for the individual, and it is this that makes them paramount in nature. But like the life of the horsehair worm, the individual life is meaningful only as a part of a process, a growth, a searching and struggling. Once removed from this process, life per se is purposeless.

We applaud the New Jersey Supreme Court's decision allowing Joseph Quinlan to stop the support systems forcing life upon his daughter and end this travesty of nature.

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### The Old Book Corner

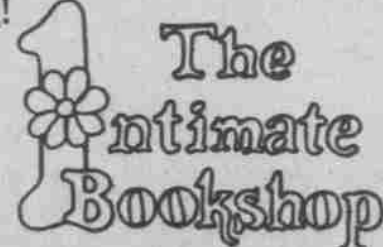
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## "WHY DO THE HEATHEN RAGE?" Psalms 2 and Acts 4:25

The Reformation of the 16th Century, developed and conducted by Martin Luther and the extraordinary men of his time, WAS A WONDERFUL EVENT, which, at every step of its progress, bears upon it the imprint of the Divine Hand. Says Carlyle of Luther: "His career marks the beginning of the present epoch, for it is safe to say that every man in western Europe and America is leading a different life today from what he would have led, and is another person altogether from what he would have been, had Martin Luther not lived." Had I lived in his day and generation, I certainly hope I would have been one of his supporters with time, money and prayers.

The great religious movement of the 17th Century, which we call the Puritan Reformation was another of the great landmarks of history, far reaching in its influence, and permanent as the truth and the Church of God. Had I lived in these times I certainly hope I would have been one of its supporters with my prayers, and time, and money.

The great movement of the 18th Century, which we have denominated the Wesleyan Reformation was another of the FEW LEADING EVENTS OF A KINDRED CHARACTER, WHICH EVER AND ANON AT GREAT INTERVALS, REVOLUTIONIZE SOCIETY AND BLESS THE WORLD." Had I lived in Wesley's day, I certainly hope I would have supported his work with prayers, time, and money.

Concerning the Christian, his money, and his giving, we now present some of John Wesley's testimony: When Wesley considered the prodigious increase of The Methodist Society "from two or three poor people to hundreds, to thousands, to myriads, he affirmed such an event, considered in all its circumstances, had not been seen upon the earth

since the time St. John went to Abraham's bosom. But he perceived where the principle of decay was to be found. The real essence of Methodism is holiness of heart and life, and if ever these essentials should evaporate, what remains will be dung and dress. He said riches were the great enemy of, and danger to these essentials: "Wherever riches have increased, the essence of religion has decreased in the same proportion." However, true religion must necessarily produce industry, frugality, and these cannot but produce riches. But as riches increase so will pride, anger, and love of the world in all its branches, the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, and pride of life." Is there no way to prevent this — this continual decay of pure religion? We ought not to prevent people from being frugal and diligent. We must exhort all Christians to gain all they can, to save all they can; that is, in effect to grow rich. What way, then, can we take, that our money may not sink us to the nethermost hell? There is one way, and there is no other under heaven. If those who gain all they can, and save all they can will likewise give all they can, then the more they gain the more will they grow in peace, and the more treasure will they lay up in heaven . . . "I defy all men upon the earth, yea, all the angels in heaven, to find any other way of extracting the poison from riches!"

"BUT SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS; AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU." Matthew 6:33. Matthew 7:15 says: "BEWARE OF FALSE PROPHETS, WHICH COME TO YOU IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING, BUT INWARDLY THEY ARE RAVENING WOLVES." Should we not beware lest we give our money to build up apostasy, and unbelief in the God of The Bible!

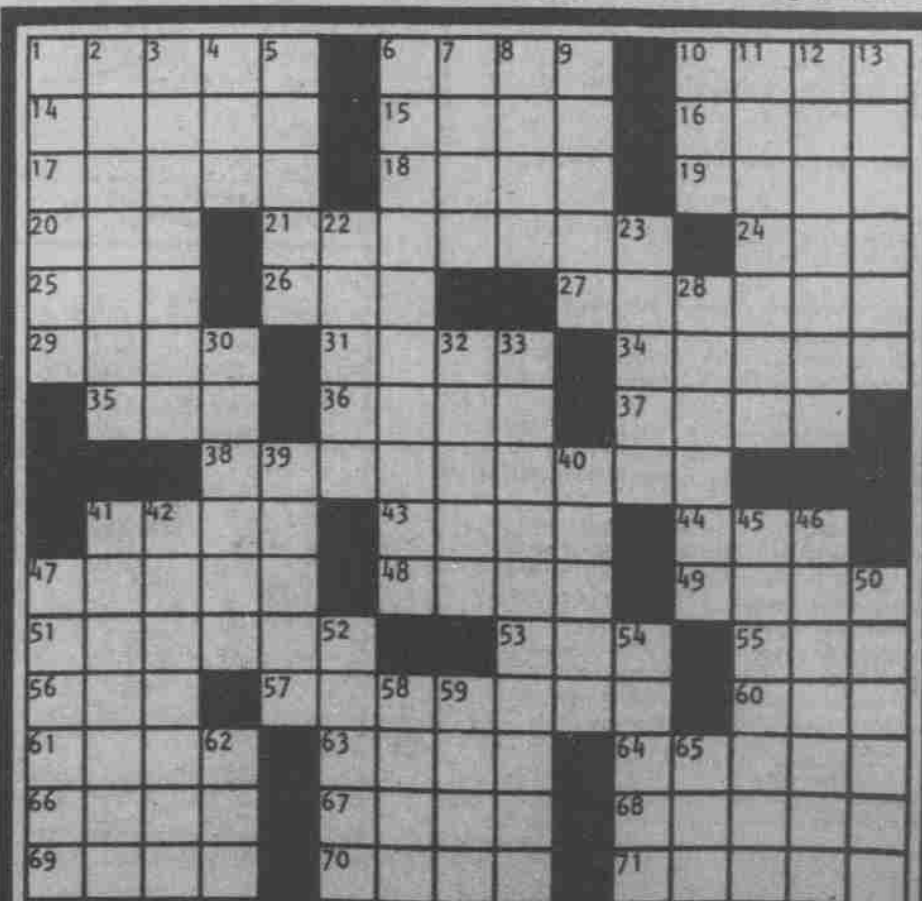
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### THE Daily Crossword - by Michael Priestley

- |                        |                        |                          |                            |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS                 | 25 Stone or Ice        | 51 Aromatic resin        | 9 Biblical mount           |
| 1 Badger's cousin      | 26 Emoter              | 53 Mr. Van Winkle        | 10 Compass letters         |
| 6 Meaty concoction     | 27 Decapitate          | 55 — de France           | 11 Wise                    |
| 10 Catch sight of      | 31 Gambol              | 56 Soul of France        | 12 Foretell                |
| 14 Rousseau's hero     | 34 Music               | 57 Performance of duties | 13 Cedex                   |
| 15 Within: comb. form  | 36 Nonesuch            | 60 Sailor                | 22 Xmas song               |
| 16 Loose garment       | 37 Heraldic term       | 61 Baget                 | 23 Adjust, as a watch      |
| 17 Fabled bird         | 38 Outline             | 63 It starts on Monday   | 28 Sharpener's book        |
| 18 Not a home-body     | 41 Eng. title          | 64 Timely excuse         | 32 "Wizard of — Park"      |
| 19 Sword               | 43 O'Neill title trees | 66 Chemical compound     | 33 Before espousal         |
| 20 Wapiti              | 44 Jamaican potable    | 67 Lamb's allonym        | 39 Fitzgerald and Grasso   |
| 21 Bloodhound, for one | 47 Of a central line   | 68 Adversary             | 40 Savory jelly            |
| 24 Body of land: abbr. | 48 Lye product         | 69 Say it isn't so       | 41 Scrutinize              |
|                        | 49 Break               | 70 Vend                  | 42 Airplane wing flap      |
|                        |                        | 71 Lusty looks           | 45 Producing oneness       |
|                        |                        |                          | 46 Gaudy handkerchief      |
|                        |                        |                          | 47 Humiliated              |
|                        |                        |                          | 50 Dangers                 |
|                        |                        |                          | 52 Ancient Persians        |
|                        |                        |                          | 54 Steinbeck's "The —"     |
|                        |                        |                          | 58 Enrage                  |
|                        |                        |                          | 59 Bridal covering         |
|                        |                        |                          | 62 Culbertson              |
|                        |                        |                          | 65 Position of a golf ball |

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HAT	ANKLE	PIEA
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