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EDITORIAL

“GOD-CREATED” INDIVIDUALITY.

By DANIEL DE LEON

“**T**HE adoption of Socialism and the driving back of the God-created individual into a mass with one common level” is the latest bugbear C.W. Post has set up to frighten the working man away from the field of the social revolution. In the days of Mumbo Jumbo the scare crow might have worked. It is too late for that now.

Eloquent pseudo-religious appeals to individuality fall upon deaf ears in the man who has no individuality. The same as the South Sea Islander who has no word for “ice,” individuality is a characteristic long lost to the American workingman. A woman bolt trimmer in the Pittsburg screw and bolt works, if she misses no motion of her machine, repeats the same operation sixteen thousand times in ten hours, for a wage of 96 cents. A railroad office clerk writing recently in a Philadelphia periodical declared that one could work till he was grey-headed, and never know the first thing about a railway or its operations. A minute subdivision of labor such that a hundred different men work on a pair of shoes, each doing his one little petty piece of work over and over again with lightning-like rapidity, is not conducive to individuality. That is the ever-increasing tendency in modern production.

Individuality? It is a lost word.

What Post means by his “God-created individuals” is himself and his fellow parasites, the employers of labor. Their precious individuality, which must not be “driven back into a mass with one common level” is the individuality they display in their various schemes for fleecing labor and squandering the fleecings. Of such individuality there has been enough and to spare.

On the other hand, the “mass with one common level” is here already. It is here just because of the peculiar sort of individuality displayed by Post and the other

"God-created." What personality it possesses is sunk to the level of the ox on the treadmill, grinding the corn it may not taste. The only way for it to attain the personality of men is to throw the "God-created" ones off, and assert its right to all it produces.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.

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slpns@slp.org