grams to meet the needs of the people. Brewster has focused attention on an important problem. The answers, I believe, will be found in examining our values, rising above selfish interests, and bringing our actions (policies, practices) into agreement with our beliefs. It won't solve the problem to blame it on the Feds.

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Uranium Enrichment

I read with great interest the articles by Robert Gillette on the coming of age of the German "separation nozzle" process (News and Comment, 30 May, p. 911) and the related South African "helikon" technique (News and Comment, 13 June, p. 1090) for the enrichment of uranium-235. Gillette states that the man credited with inventing the nozzle process is E.-W. Becker of the Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Center. The possibility of separating gas mixtures in high-velocity jets appears to have been suggested first by Dirac during World War II, and demonstrated experimentally by P. A. I. Tahourdin (*1*) at Oxford University. Dirac suggested that the separative action of a gas centrifuge could be reproduced without any moving parts in a high-velocity jet having curved lines of flow. The centrifugal field established across such a jet would then affect the distribution of atoms and molecules differing in mass in a manner similar to that achieved in a gas centrifuge. Tahourdin, using mixtures of carbon dioxide with either hydrogen or nitrogen, confirmed that this method was able to produce separations of considerable magnitude under certain conditions. Light and heavy fractions of these mixtures were extracted through appropriate slits. A curved-path slit system investigated by Tahourdin bears a close resemblance to that employed in a separation element in the Becker nozzle process, as depicted in one of Gillette's articles (30 May, p. 912). This does not detract in any way from the achievements of E.-W. Becker and his associates at Marburg and Karlsruhe, who have studied the nozzle technique in depth and have moved it from the laboratory to the pilot plant.

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Reference

1. P. A. I. Tahourdin, "Final report on the jet separation method" (Oxford Report No. 36, Br. 694, Clarendon Laboratory, Oxford, England, 1946).