

mire picked up a truth-in-lending bill that Douglas had been pushing for 7 years, agreed to a few compromises, and got it through the Senate by a vote of 92 to 0. Proxmire also developed and put into the 1968 housing act some of Douglas's ideas for stimulating innovative housing experiments.

Proxmire and Douglas were allies in at least one historic floor fight. In July 1965, they began a filibuster that ultimately defeated Senator Everett Dirksen's proposal for a constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court's one-man-one-vote ruling on apportionment of state legislatures.

Now, with his disclosure of the Pentagon's financial excesses, Proxmire has made an important contribution to a growing campaign to reduce defense spending. The military budget still is hard to touch in Congress, as evidenced by the easy House passage last month of the huge procurement appropriation for fiscal year 1971. But this year, for the first time, there was an organized lobbying effort aimed at cutting this budget.

Proxmire points out that, since his committee's hearings and since the Senate debate on the Safeguard antiballistic missile system, both Congress and the Administration have been cutting the defense budget. The Pentagon got \$77.9 billion in fiscal 1969, but its budget in fiscal 1971 will be about \$71.2 billion. "I think we are creating an atmosphere now in which the budget can be cut," Proxmire says. "I think we are just beginning."

In his recently published book *Report from Wasteland*, Proxmire contends that the United States could cut \$10 billion from annual defense spending without endangering national security. He deplors the arms race, which he feels is based on an exaggerated view of the Soviet Union's military and economic strength. And he advocates establishment of an independent civilian arms procurement agency to act as the military's purchasing office.

Proxmire also warns, as President Eisenhower did a decade ago, about the influence of the military industrial complex. "The complex has more tentacles than an octopus," he says in the book. "Its dimensions are almost infinite. It is a military-industrial-bureaucratic-trade association-labor union-intellectual-academic-service club-political complex whose pervasiveness touches nearly every citizen."

His battles with this creature should put Proxmire in good position for his reelection bid this year. By opposing Pentagon waste and favoring withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam, he has staked out what appear to be generally popular positions in Wisconsin. Some Republicans believe, though, that a dramatic turn in the war—for good or ill—could make him vulnerable on the issue of support for President Nixon.

Proxmire's Republican opponent seems certain to be John Erickson, general manager of the Milwaukee Bucks basketball team and a former coach at the University of Wisconsin. Erickson, a moderate conservative, is a good speaker and is well known in the state. He received the endorsement of the state Republican convention recently but could still be challenged in a primary. (James Lovell, the astronaut, considered the race but then backed off.)

Unless the war and military spending develop as issues, the Republicans are expected to use much the same arguments they employed against Proxmire in 1964. They will question his effectiveness as a senator, particularly his ability—and willingness—to deliver from the pork barrel. They will charge that he talks economy but votes for big spending programs. But Proxmire is likely to be heavily favored. He prepares for campaigns as much as 4 years in advance, perhaps remembering the defeats of the 1950's. And he still can be expected to stump the state as energetically as he did 20 years ago. "What can you do," asks one exasperated Wisconsin Republican, "with a guy who talks like a Republican and votes like a Democrat? . . . That sort of thing just happens to be popular in this state."

Proxmire has not become one of the truly powerful men of Congress. He has never been a member of the Senate "club," nor has he been particularly respectful of its traditions. He has never been regarded as a likely candidate for national office, except for an occasional mention as a dark horse choice for vice president. But he has created a role all his own as an informed critic and educator, and time may prove that it was a powerful role after all.

—WILLIAM CONNELLY

William Connelly is the Washington correspondent for the Winston-Salem, N.C., Journal and Sentinel.

APPOINTMENTS

Samuel B. Barker, associate dean, Graduate School, University of Alabama, Birmingham, to dean of the graduate school. . . . **Carl W. Hall**, chairman, agricultural engineering department, Michigan State University, to dean, College of Engineering, Washington State University. . . . **Ivan L. Bennett, Jr.**, vice president for health affairs, New York University, and director, NYU Medical Center has been named dean, NYU School of Medicine and dean, NYU Post-Graduate Medical School. . . . **Joseph A. Wells**, associate dean, Northwestern University School of Medicine, to dean, Loyola University of Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. . . . **Richard I. Weller**, professor of physics, Franklin and Marshall College, to dean, New School of Science and Mathematics, Edinboro State College. . . . **William R. Uptegrove**, chairman, mechanical engineering department, University of Texas, Austin, to dean, College of Engineering, University of Oklahoma. . . . **Ambrose Saricks**, associate dean, Graduate School, University of Kansas, to dean, Graduate School, Wichita State University. . . . **Edwin E. Pyatt**, professor of environmental engineering, University of Florida, appointed chairman of the department. . . . **William P. Bidelman**, professor of astronomy, University of Texas, to chairman, astronomy department, Case Western Reserve University. . . . **Harry E. Sutton**, professor of zoology and education, University of Texas, to chairman, zoology department at Austin. . . . **Arleigh B. Templeton**, president, Sam Houston State University, to president, University of Texas, San Antonio. . . . **James T. McFadden**, chairman, wildlife and fisheries department, University of Michigan, to dean, University School of Natural Resources. . . . **Robert M. Bird**, associate dean of planning and development, University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, to dean of the school. . . . **John P. Craven**, visiting professor of ocean engineering and political science, M.I.T., to dean of marine programs, University of Hawaii. . . . **A. L. Fritschel**, dean of instruction, Northeast Missouri State College, to dean, College of Education, Wisconsin State University, Stevens Point. . . . **James A. Clifton**, professor of internal medicine, University of Iowa, to head of the department.