

Washington Report

By CONGRESSMAN JAMES T. BROYHILL

As government costs skyrocket, it is refreshing to see parts of the Federal budget reduced below estimates. This past week the Appropriations Committee brought before the House the Independent Offices Appropriations Bill for 1964. This legislation, one of the largest of the year's money bills, provides the finances for some 25 independent agencies of our Federal government. This year it amounted to more than \$13 billion.

The Kennedy Administration had originally requested over \$14.6 billion, but the Committee, after long and diligent work, made reductions amounting to over ten per cent. I might add that Congressman Charles R. Jonas of North Carolina is a valued member of the Independent Offices Appropriations Subcommittee, and was individually responsible for many of the reductions in this bill.

One of the major items in the bill is \$5.37 billion for the Veterans Administration. Fears were expressed that reductions in budget requests for the veterans medical care program would be harmful. However, it was pointed out to me that savings made in other areas made it possible actually to add \$27 million to the medical care program for 1964. I am satisfied that this program will be adequately financed to handle the 122,777 hospital beds operated by the Veterans Administration in its 170 veterans hospitals.

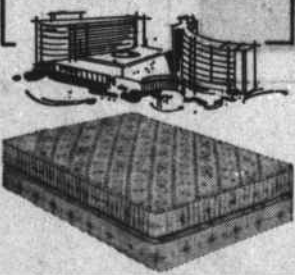
Another big item in the bill which drew fire and criticism was the appropriation of \$6 billion for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. This is the agency which has supervision over the entire space program, including the proposed moon shot. Concern in Congress is growing over the immense cost of this program. Attempts were made to reduce this amount by \$200 million, which I supported.

It is my strong feeling that recent developments and statements by the Administration call for a re-evaluation of our entire space policy. I also supported another amendment which was adopted. This amendment prevents any of the funds in the bill being used to join with Russia or any other Communist country in a joint space venture, such as the joint moon shot proposed by the President in his speech to the United Nations. One of the great worries over this proposal was the military aspects of the space program. Although NASA is a civilian agency and, therefore, the moon shot is a "civilian" undertaking, the consequences of its research clearly has military applications and is important to the national defense of this country.

Though you can always pick out areas in an appropriations bill with which you might not

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agree, all in all, I felt that the Committee did a fine job reducing the budget in this bill. In fact, if all the Appropriations Sub-committees could do as fine a job as this, we would not have

to worry so much about deficits and could begin earning a tax cut immediately without concern that the tax bill will be financed by borrowed money. We could then start to slow down the drift toward financial chaos and return to a policy of fiscal responsibility.

Robey Is New Pharmacist At Local Drug Store

Mr. George Robey, formerly of Lenoir, has recently been employed as pharmacist by Carolina Pharmacy in Boone.

Mr. Robey previously worked at a hospital in Lenoir. He is originally from Sarasota, Fla., where he operated a prescription shop for 15 years after graduating from the University of West Virginia in 1935.

Robey, who is presently staying at Highland Hills Motel,

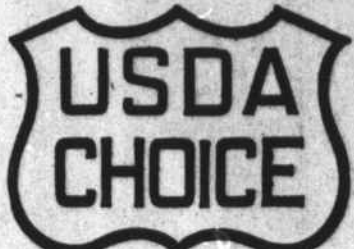
is married but has no children. He has purchased a tract of land in the Edgemont section, where he plans to build a house in the near future, as further evidence that he is impressed with this region. "I think you have a beautiful country up here," Robey told a Democrat reporter.

Robey said that his chief spare-time activities were hunting and fishing, with the emphasis on fishing. "I'm a great one for fishing," he said.

The fellow who is always working to make a smart impression is not as smart as he gets credit for being.

CARD OF THANKS
We wish to express our appreciation to our friends and neighbors for the food, flowers, and other expressions of sympathy during the death of my dear wife and our mother—Claude Proffitt and family.

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