

GOP's Top Woman Is All Confidence

By Ken Wong

Brunette, blue-eyed mother of five Anne Armstrong is one of the 15 most influential persons in the country today, according to a national magazine. She holds the highest position ever held by any woman in any political party as co-chairman of the Republican National Committee.

The high ranking Republican exuded confidence for President Nixon's reelection at the St. Francis Hotel yesterday where she stayed during her Bay Area visit.

For the past 15 months as Republican National Committee co-chairman she kept a finger on the pulse of GOP parties throughout the country.

Except for Rep. John Ashbrook (R-Ohio), she sees the GOP as a solid block backing Mr. Nixon's nomination.

Rep. Ashbrook said last Saturday at the United Republicans of California convention in San Jose that he will not support President Nixon if the GOP nominates him.

As for the rocking, socking Democratic hopeful Sen. George McGovern's strong rapport with young voters, it is no landslide, the GOP co-chairman said.

At a national Phi Beta Kappa convention in Rochester, Minnesota, 800 members voted to back Nixon by 49 percent with 23 percent supporting McGovern, she pointed out.

As for using show biz personalities as fund raisers, the GOP has Lainie Kazan and Chad Everett heading a committee to come up with some names.



Anne Armstrong

"Nixon may lack charisma but he has experience, intelligence, self discipline and grace under pressure," she firmly added.

Escalation of the Vietnam War was only temporary, she explained. "With the monsoon season approaching the war should grind to a halt within months," she said.

"This is the last gasp of the North Vietnamese," she emphasized. "Their casualties have been enormous. We just cannot pull out and abandon the South Vietnamese."

Mrs. Armstrong feels that there should be more women in top government posts and urged women to get into politics. But not at the expense of breaking up a home.

She placed the home above politics. She herself did not get fully involved until her children were full grown.

The wife of Tobin Armstrong, a millionaire Texas rancher, Mrs. Armstrong's prime duty with the GOP national committee is with women and youth.

She firmly believes in an open door policy for the Republican Party and thinks this country will see a woman president within 20 years.