

# The Retiring Republicans In the House

Washington

A half-dozen senior House Republicans who would occupy key leadership and committee posts if the Republicans who would occupy key leadership and committee posts if the Republicans gained a congressional majority in 1974.

But Republican campaign officials said yesterday their actions did not indicate pessimism on the party's mid-term election prospects or necessarily indicate a wave of retirements is in the offing.

In the past few weeks, announcements that this is their last year in the House have come from:

- Representative Leslie C. Arends of Illinois, 78, senior House Republican with 39 years of service, the party whip and second-ranking minority member of the Armed Services committee.

- Representative Harold R. Collier of Illinois, 58, a 17-year veteran and second-ranking Republican on the prestigious Ways and Means committee. The No. 5 Republican on that Committee, 56-year-old Representative Charles E. Chamberlain of Michigan, who entered Congress with Collier, had previously announced his retirement.

- Representative Dave Martin of Nebraska, 66, a 13-year veteran and ranking Republican on the Rules committee, which controls traffic of most bills to the House floor.

- Representative William S. Mailliard of California, 56, a 21-year veteran who is ranking Republican on the Foreign Affairs committee and No. 2 man on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

- Representative William E. Minshall of Ohio, 62, a 19-year veteran, who is second-ranking Republican on the Appropriations committee.

- And Representative

Ancher Neisen of Minnesota, 69, a 15-year veteran, who is ranking Republican on the District of Columbia committee and No. 2 man on the Commerce committee.

It is unusual so early in an election year to have word of this many senior members of a particular party stepping down, but Paul Theis, spokesman for the Republi-

can congressional campaign committee, said yesterday that it would be a mistake to project a trend at this point.

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