

100 - 41 - 44
FR Sept 27, 68

Fletcher Challenges Cherberg To Debates

WALLA WALLA — Art Fletcher, Republican nominee for lieutenant governor, today asked his opponent, incumbent Lt. Gov. John Cherberg, to participate in "at least a half dozen debates in major population centers throughout the state."

Fletcher, who carried every county in the state against his primary opponents, spoke in Walla Walla before the Kiwanis Club.

Fletcher said he had sent a letter requesting the debates to Cherberg at his office in Olympia, his office at KIRO Television and at his campaign office.

"If Gov. Dan Evans is willing to debate, then surely the incumbent lieutenant governor should be willing to do the same," Fletcher stated.

Cherberg, on a trip to the Tri-Cities earlier in the campaign, had said he did not in-

tend to debate Fletcher.

In the letter to Cherberg, Fletcher said in part:

"It is my contention that the potential of this office has never been fully implemented, that it can and should be a full-time working job, with the office holder doing all of this public business 'in public'. I believe that the lieutenant governor should live and work in Olympia, and that the extensive spare time now available to the lieutenant governor be fully utilized to organize self-help and self-determination projects throughout the state.