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Gov. Evans, O'Connell, Stress Vigor

SEATTLE (AP) — Gov. Dan Evans said early Wednesday he would field a "great team" with lieutenant governor candidate Arthur Fletcher to carry the Republican banner to the grass roots in the next six weeks.

His general election opponent, Atty. Gen. John J. O'Connell, said he will emphasize personal contact in his bid to unseat Evans.

That was the tone of the camps as the dust from the primary settled and the campaigners readied for a short but vigorous general election campaign.

Both took the first steps in molding their campaigns at noisy primary night campaign headquarters.

'WORKING TEAM'

Evans stood side by side with Washington's first Negro candidate for lieutenant governor, Pasco city councilman Art Fletcher, and said "We have a working team... it'll be a great team. I think we'll put together the darndest team in office!"

O'Connell said he plans to continue campaigning as he has done the past year. That means standing "in front of plant gates at six in the morning and shaking a lot of hands... I don't think the governor has done that type of campaigning."

The attorney general also said he would eliminate from his campaign any reference to the controversy boiling over King County prosecutor Charles O. Carroll who has been linked with a pinball executive.

O'Connell said the investigation being made concerning Carroll may continue past election day.

The Democratic gubernatorial candidate was asked if he believed the Negro vote could be weakened on his side because of Fletcher's running with Evans.

'PERSONAL MERIT'

"Oh, we run the governor and lieutenant governor on separate slates. I don't think that type of result will occur. People will vote on personal merits."

Evans answered a similar question by saying he did not believe Fletcher's entrance into statewide politics would upset any particular voting pattern.

Meanwhile, O'Connell said the people of Washington "are not satisfied with the record of the incumbent. It's a record of no-performance. It's what I like to call a performance gap."

Evans said Fletcher would be the first full-time lieutenant governor in Washington. He praised Fletcher for helping minority groups in Pasco develop self-help programs.

Fletcher said if he's elected he plans to work on solving minority group problems by gathering complaints and proposals to solve problems from minority groups.

O'Connell also said he would work toward improving conditions of minority groups and singled out agriculture workers as deserving attention. "I think they're real second class citizens and I'll do all in my power so that they get a fair share in our society."

He said agriculture workers are devoid of any labor benefits that protect our wives and minors."