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Primary Election

Light Turnout 270 Seen in State

SEATTLE (AP) — With only 24 per cent of a record 1,569,074 registered Washington voters expected to turn out, the polls will open tomorrow at 7 a. m. for the state primary election in which congressional, state and some county candidates will be nominated.

Secretary of State Lud Kramer estimated the voter turnout at about 800,000, fewer than in 1964.

In the congressional races, Democratic U.S. Sen. Warren Magnuson and the seven U.S. representatives, five Democrats and two Republicans, have only token primary opposition, three of them none.

Republican Gov. Dan Evans faces four primary opponents, but none is considered a serious threat to his re-nomination.

In the race for Democratic gubernatorial nomination, State Atty. Gen. John O'Connell, State Sen. Martin Durkan of Seattle and Tacoma attorney Jack Tanner, a Negro, are on the ballot.

A close contest is predicted for the Republican lieutenant governor nomination between Pasco City Councilman Art Fletcher and Seattle hydroplane racer Bill Munsy. Fletcher, 43, is a Negro whose self-help program for black persons won attention at the GOP National Convention.

Democratic Lt. Gov. John Cherberg, 57, faces only token opposition from Charles A. Lindberg, 30, Olympia, and Kelly McKennon, 24, Snohomish.

Rep. Slade Gorton, 46, the House minority leader, is the sole candidate for the Republican attorney general nomination. Democrats seeking to oppose him are Don Abel Jr., 44, Seattle; John McCutcheon, 45, Tacoma, and Donald Navoni, 36, Seattle.

Also on the ballot will be nominations for all 99 state House seats and 25 of the 49 state Senate seats.

Two county commissioners are up for nomination in each of the state's 39 counties, and a

few counties also will choose candidates for unexpired terms in other offices.

Included on the ballot will be candidates for secretary of state, treasurer, auditor, superintendent of public instruction, and commissioner, insurance commissioner and four seats on the State Supreme Court.

As a sidelight to the election activity, a nominating convention will be held for third-party presidential candidate George Wallace to place him on the general election ballot under the American party label.

Washington the 50th
John L. DeCarlo, Wallace spokesman from Birmingham, Ala., said Washington will be the 50th state to place the former Alabama governor on its ballot under various party names.

In Washington it is easy for a minor party to qualify for the general election ballot. All it needs is a convention attended by at least 100 voters who didn't participate in the primary.

Although Thursday is not a legal holiday, liquor sales are prohibited during the voting hours, 7 a. m. to 3 p. m., in the state's 5,483 precincts.