

Fletcher

Blasts

'Secrecy'

SEATTLE — "It is imperative that the next session of the legislature bring about an end to the secret voting procedures used in the State Senate Rules Committee," Art Fletcher, Republican candidate for lieutenant governor, told a series of Spokane audiences yesterday.

Fletcher charged the record would show conclusively the incumbent lieutenant governor had done nothing in the 12 years he had been in office to end an "intolerable situation."

"The Senate Rules Committee is doing important public work," Fletcher said. "Public business should be done in public, out in the open where the electorate can see what is going on."

Fletcher reminded his audiences the lieutenant governor is automatically chairman of the Senate Rules Committee.

"This gives the lieutenant governor a chance to work toward ending the secret vote procedure, and that is exactly what I intend to do when I am elected.

"The House of Representatives ended the secret vote procedure in the last session of the legislature," Fletcher said. "There was a move to do the same thing in the Senate, but it quietly died and the incumbent lieutenant governor helped it die by supporting the secret vote in the Rules committee."

Fletcher also emphasized, as he has done in more than a thousand meetings in 30 counties, that "it is time to put the lieutenant governor to work."

Fletcher pointed out that, although the lieutenant governor is paid \$10,000 a year, the present incumbent, who has been in office since 1956, has held down a full-time advertising sales job with a Seattle broadcasting corporation, lives in Seattle and is rarely in his Olympia office.

"I will either be in that office every working day or out in the state on the job where the problems are," Fletcher said.