

## WEDDINGS

### BECKER — KOSER

The marriage of Miss Bonita Lou Koser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victor J. Koser, Mount Joy R1, to David D. Becker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter T. Becker, Mount Joy R2, was solemnized on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 2 p.m. in Florin Church of the Brethren, with the Reverend Howard Bernhard officiating.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, was attended by her sister, Mrs. Larry Dombach, Mount Joy R1, matron of honor; Mrs. Dale Long, Manheim, bridesmaid, and Miss Karen Greider, Mount Joy R1, junior bridesmaid. Dawn Greider, of Mount Joy R1, was flower girl.

Larry Dombach, Mount Joy R1, served as best man. Ushers were James Spickler, Mount Joy R1, and Jay Richard Stauffer, Mount Joy R2. Miss Nancy Gable was organist and Robert Stauffer, soloist.

The reception was held at Hostetter's Banquet Hall, Mt. Joy. After a wedding trip to Florida, the couple will reside at Mount Joy R1.

The bride, a '65 graduate of Donegal high school, is employed by Elizabethtown Area School District, as an IBM secretary. The bridegroom, a '64 graduate of Donegal high, is self-employed in farming.

The bride's co-workers en-

tertained at a dinner party in her honor at Hillcrest Restaurant, Elizabethtown, and a party at the home of Mrs. Richard Myers, Groff Avenue, Elizabethtown.

The bride was honored at a shower given by her attendants, Mrs. Jay Greider, Mount Joy R1, and Mrs. Ronald Bitner, at the Bitner home, R.D. 1, Elizabethtown.

The bridegroom's parents were hosts at the rehearsal party in the church hall.

## Engagements

### MACKINSON — KIEHL

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel B. Kiehl, 162 Walnut St., Columbia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth A. Kiehl, to Richard L. Mackinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Graver T. Mackinson, Marietta R1.

Miss Kiehl is a senior at Columbia high school. Her fiancé, a 1965 graduate of Donegal high school, is serving as a private in the U. S. Army stationed at the Medical Training Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Before entering the service, he was employed by Musser Potato Chips, Inc.

### REED — SMITH

Mr. and Mrs. Rof J. Smith

40 West Main Street, announced the engagement of their daughter, Elsie Mae Smith, to Gilbert E. Reed, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Reed, Bainbridge.

Miss Smith is a 1965 graduate of Donegal high school. Her fiancé, a 1961 graduate of Elizabethtown high school, served two years in the U. S. Army, stationed in Hawaii. Both are employed by Auto Litho Inc.

### ACKERLEY — HALTER

Mr. and Mrs. Warden W. Halter, 425 Columbia Ave., announce the engagement of their daughter, Sandra Lee Halter, to D. Brian Ackerley, son of Mrs. Eva Detz, Mount Pleasant Rd., Marietta.

A 1966 graduate of Donegal high school, Miss Halter is employed by Red Rose Dairy.

Her fiancé attended Donegal high school and is employed by New Standard Corporation. He is serving in the Penna. National Guard.

### Insurance Assembly

Representatives from the Lancaster County Life Insurance association will speak Thursday, Feb. 16 to the students of the Donegal high school senior class.

This is an annual program, designed to orient students about the value of planning some form of an insurance program for their lives after graduation.

## An Editorion

(From page 1)

Whatever is decided at these sessions has no more authoritative weight than if a couple of the members of council held an impromptu conversation standing on the curb in front of the post office.

The theory back of the caucus meetings, as they rightfully should be known, is completely justifiable and legal. But, in actual practice, they are a dangerous and a maddening arrangement.

Several difficulties are inherent.

In the first place, nothing is decided at these meetings. Not all members of the council attend. In fact, some members rebel at the idea of discussing public business behind closed doors in what amounts to a secret *tete-a-tete*.

The theory of government in the U. S. is that public business is conducted in public so that the people — the people who pay the bills — can see, hear and know what

is going on.

Because some of the council members do not attend these meetings, any territory which is covered and discussed in private must be tramped over again in public.

And, in the second discussions, bad feelings arise between those who attend the extra sessions and those who do not. Both groups are irritated and those who are having the second dose of the same discussion are bored.

Secondly, the "rump" sessions are a dangerous area in which irregularities and illegalities may be committed — although inadvertently and unintentionally.

Nothing which goes on or any decision that is made has any legal or official standing. No minutes even are kept. Thus, the danger is that some agreements may be reached and then before later official action is taken, a move may be made which has not been approved by the council, or is even known about by the rest of the members.

These regular "secret" meetings, to which the public is not only uninvited but actually excluded, are a breeding ground for irregular actions — actions which conceivably could land council members in the position of being fined.

Should, for instance, the council decide at a "rump" meeting to buy a power lawn mower and then the purchase was made before the matter was taken before the entire board, someone might get into a lot of serious trouble.

Thirdly, at some of these "behind closed door" parleys, there have been some bitter, harsh things said which we expect some people may now wish had never been uttered.

The closed door makes it too easy for talk "off the record" of things which should never have been said. There have been times when members of the council and employees of the borough have been yelling at each other when discussions should have been calm and orderly.

Done in public, these unpleasantnesses would have been tempered and toned better to suit the actions of gentlemen.

And, fourthly and lastly, in most every case, those responsible for government can operate better and longer in public.

Taking public business behind the curtain to be discussed in private leads to no long-term good.

Let's have borough business transacted out in the open, above board and in full sight and sound of anyone who is interested.

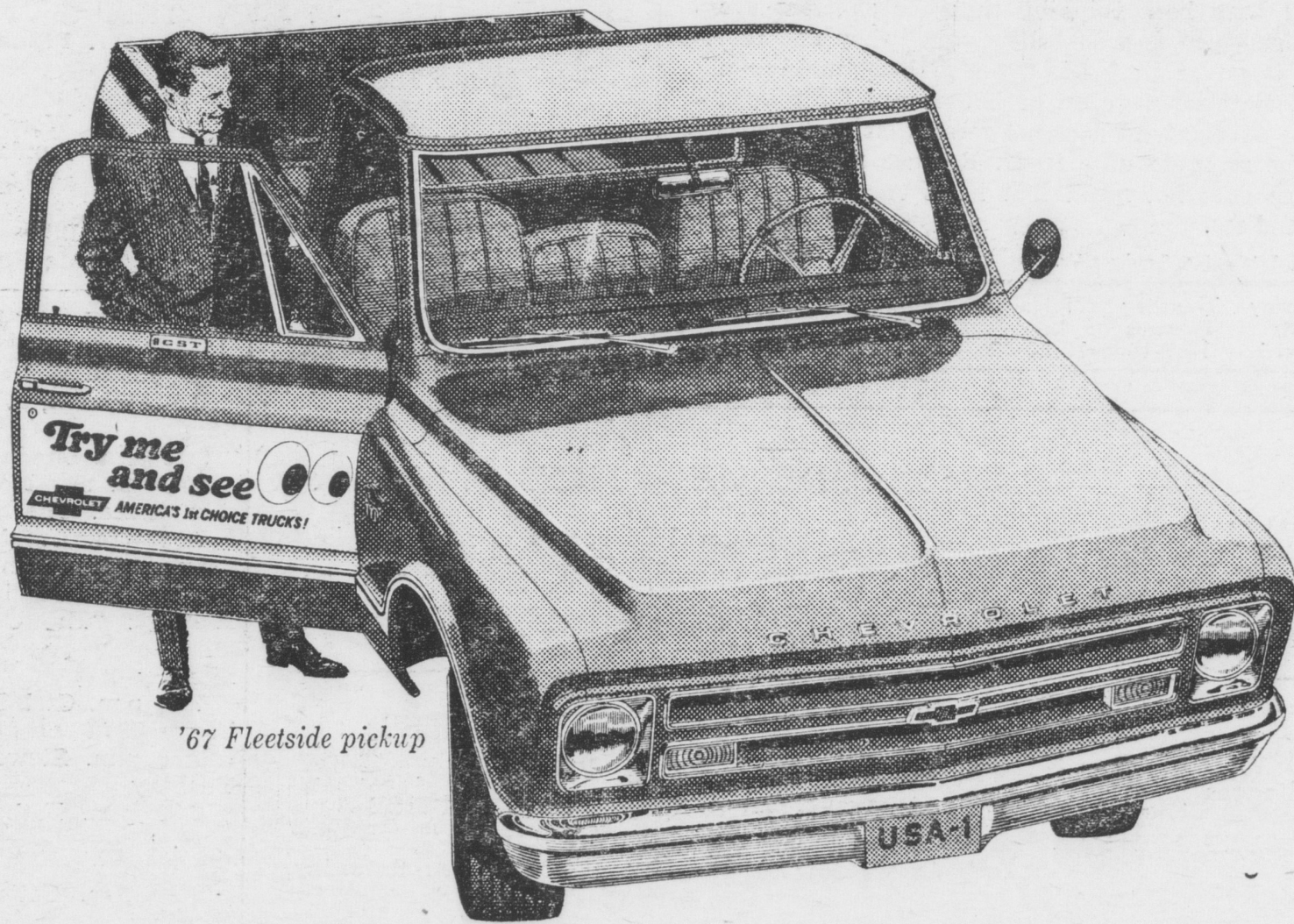
### Phone Co. Buys New Property

The transfer of assets of Gulf States Telephone Company to United Utilities, Inc., was completed Wednesday, Feb. 8, it was announced this week by P. H. Henson, president.

The two companies had announced last fall an agreement under which Gulf States was to become a part of the United Telephone System, which is the nation's second-largest Independent (non-Bell) telephone system, operated by United Utilities. Final approvals on that agreement have now been received, Henson said.

Completion of the transaction extends the United System's operations into its 18th state. Gulf States and its subsidiaries serve more than 50,000 telephones in 48 exchanges — 43 of them in Central and East Texas, near Dallas-Fort Worth, and five of them near Houston.

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