

## Historic Trip To The Moon Starts Tomorrow

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## Pearce Returned To Jail Following Oxford Hearing

Franklin Mayor Joseph W. Pearce was returned to Franklin County jail late Monday afternoon following a ruling by Superior Court Judge Clarence Hall that Pearce had not been illegally held when jailed on a contempt of court charge on June 24. The Monday hearing was held in Oxford at 2:30 P.M.

Pearce remains in jail today and is not expected to be freed until he files a proper account as guardian of the estate of his 11-year-old daughter.

Clerk of Court Ralph S. Knott appointed Pearce guardian for his minor child on January 4, 1968 following the death of the child's mother, the divorced wife of Pearce. Knott says the law required Pearce to file an account of the estate not later than January 4, this year. Repeated attempts of the part of Knott to have such an account filed proved futile, according to the Clerk.

Knott says that Pearce was served with an order to file the account by Deputy Sheriff John Deal on May 20, this year and given twenty days in which to comply. Pearce, according to Knott, appeared before Knott on June 18 and requested additional time.

## Tobacco Growers Cautioned

The county ASCS office has issued a warning to tobacco growers on use of marketing cards this season and the feed grain and wheat programs are being clarified.

The complete text of the statement follows:

### Sidewalk Sale Set

The Trade Promotion Committee of the Franklin County Business Association has announced the annual "SIDEWALK SALE" will be held August 7.

All Association members in the downtown area are invited to participate in this promotion. The first sale of this kind to be held in Louisburg was in 1968. It was considered the most outstanding promotion planned by the Association.

These promotions are planned for Louisburg and vicinity to encourage residents to shop at home and to take advantage of the many bargains made available by the local merchants.

When Pearce failed to file within the extended time, Knott ordered him jailed for contempt.

On June 26, Knott removed Pearce as Guardian reporting that on January 4, 1968, there was "delivered" to Pearce, "the sum of \$7,800, being the property of his ward, namely, Jo Dorcas Pearce, who was at the time, ten years of age."

The Franklin Mayor was held in jail for several hours under \$1,000 bond before he was released on a writ of habeas corpus, signed by Judge William Y. Bickett.

Judge Hall ruled that it was within the jurisdiction of the Clerk of Court to order Pearce's arrest for failing to file an acceptable guardianship report. During Monday's hearing, it was stated that Pearce had filed two reports, but that neither was acceptable to Knott.

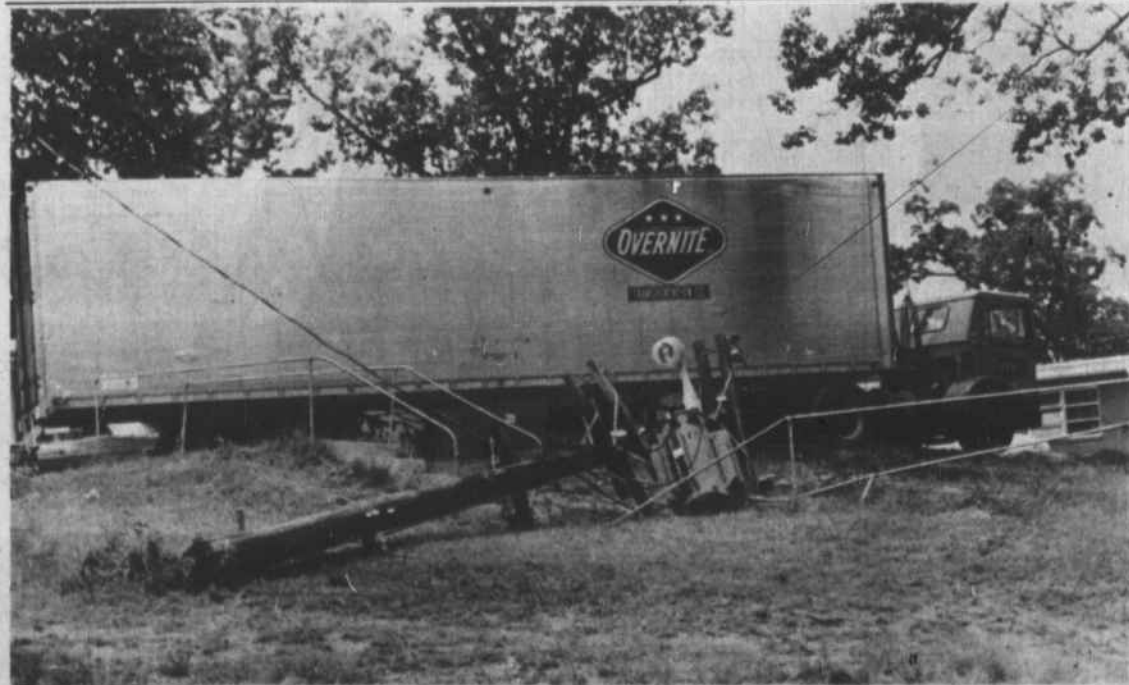
Due to a mixup in filing certain papers by Pearce's attorney, Monday's hearing was delayed while Sheriff William T. Dement transported the necessary papers to the Oxford hearing. Dement brought Pearce back to Louisburg following the ruling by Judge Hall.

Tobacco marketing cards are issued to producers by farm numbers for the purpose of selling the tobacco produced on the farm for which the card is issued. If farmers use their cards to identify tobacco produced on other farms, they are asking for trouble. The penalty for misuse of marketing cards are allotment reductions for the following year and assessment of heavy marketing quota penalties. In addition, violators may be subject to criminal or civil fraud prosecution.

Tobacco marketing cards are to be presented when tobacco is weighed in at the warehouse. It is to remain at the warehouse until the tobacco is sold or the farmer removes the tobacco from the warehouse. To avoid problems and penalties farmers should be very particular about the care and use of their marketing cards.

When producers signed up in the 1969 Feed Grain and Wheat Programs they were told the number of diverted acres to maintain on the farm. This is the cropland that farmers are not harvesting a crop from in 1969 because of taking part in the annual programs. It must be land of at least

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### Power Knocked Out

Scene above shows where a tractor-trailer truck struck a power line on the county hill complex here last Thursday knocking down a pole and transformer. Electric current was off at the Health, Social Services and School offices until late Friday.

# Highlights Of The 1969 General Assembly

### Constitutional Amendments

The 1969 session received some 36 bills (including eight duplicates) proposing amendments to the State Constitution -- a record number for recent sessions. The main source of these proposals was the State Constitution Study Commission, chaired by former Chief Justice Emory B. Denny. It recommended a general editorial revision of the Constitution and nine separate amendments, each dealing with a particular issue that the Commission felt should have independent consideration.

It was to be anticipated that the General Assembly would be unlikely to approve and present to the voters anything approaching a majority of this record number of proposed Constitutional amendments. When the dust had cleared, seven of the propos-

### As Reported by the Institute of Government

ed amendments had been approved by the Assembly, and the remainder killed. A Constitutional amendment must command an affirmative vote of three-fifths of each house in order to get on the ballot, and a majority of the popular vote cast on it to be ratified. The popular vote on those proposals approved by the Assembly will take place in November, 1970, the time of the next general election.

The general editorial revision recommended by the Commission was finally ratified on the last day of the session. Also ratified on the last day was a general revision of the State and local government finance provisions of the Constitution, recommended by the Local Government Study Commission and endorsed by the Constitution Commission. Other amendments ratified that were a part of the Constitu-

### PART II

tion Study Commission package were measures to reassign escheats among all of the state's institutions of higher learning, to authorize the Assembly to fix personal income tax exemptions, and to require the Assembly to reduce the number of State departments to 25 by 1975. The other two Constitutional amendments that were adopted this year by the Assembly were an act to repeal the literacy test for voting (initiated by Rep. Henry Frye) and an act to permit three-fifths of the legislators to convene a special session of the General Assembly. (initiated by Sen. Herman Moore).

The amendments that were killed included a number of the more controversial ones-- the gubernatorial veto, two terms for the Governor, annual legislative sessions, the short ballot, appointment of the Superintendent of

Public Instruction, off-year Governor's election, revised procedures for constitutional conventions, 6-months' voter residence, 18-year-old voting, and 4-year terms for the State Senate.

Conservation of Natural Resources and the Environment

With relatively little fanfare, the 1969 General Assembly built a substantial record of conservation legislation. Heading the list is a group of new laws relating to the protection of estuaries and navigable waters, strengthening of local air pollution control powers, regulation of mining activities, and resource program organization.

A special focus of concern this session for conservationists was the protection of coastal estuaries, which serve as a spawning and breeding ground for much valuable fish and

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## Opportunity Gets OEO Grant

The Office of Economic Opportunity today approved a \$487,262 grant to Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity, Incorporated of Henderson, North Carolina to carry on community action programs for the year July 1, 1969 through June 30, 1970. Grant approval was announced by W. Astor Kirk, OEO Mid-Atlantic Regional Director.

The OEO grant, supplemented by \$33,400 in local share, brings the program year budget to \$522,300, divided as follows:

Conduct and Administration, \$45,721, will provide a new Executive Director and a supporting staff of four, to coordinate the program.

Full-Year, Full-Day Head Start, \$424,616, to provide a staff of 31 professionals and 60 non-professionals, assisted by 70 volunteers. The program will provide 24 classes in 14 centers, serving 360 children.

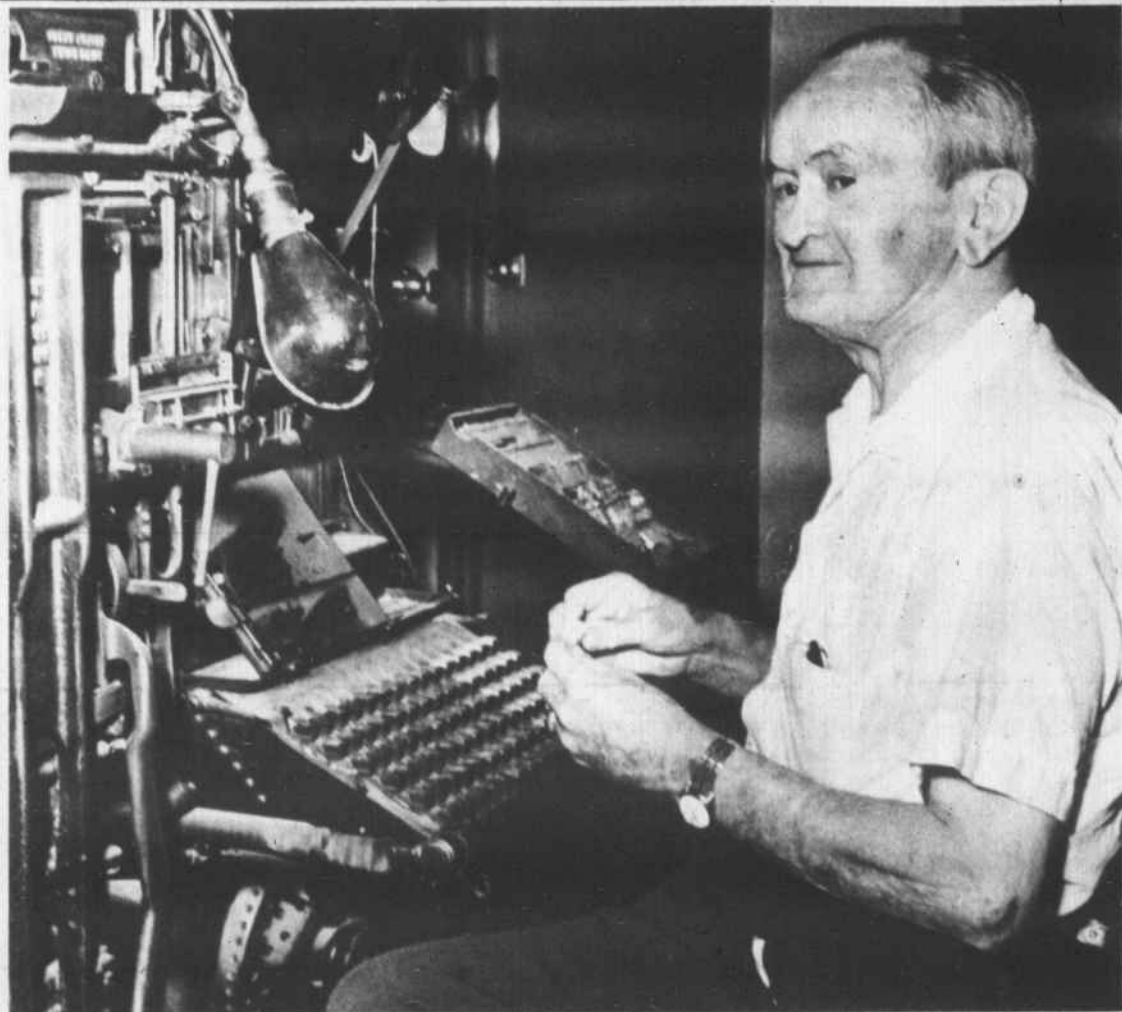
Emergency Food and Medical, \$51,963, provides a professional and six non-professionals to be assisted by 18 volunteers, this portion of the grant covering only a six-month period.

## Final Rites Today For J. A. Wheless

J. Albert Wheless, retired U. S. Army Colonel and former postal employee here, died Monday afternoon in Franklin Memorial Hospital. Wheless, 68, was affiliated with a member firm of the New York Stock Exchange in recent years.

Funeral services were conducted today at 5 P.M. from the Louisburg Baptist Church conducted by the pastor, Rev. Aubrey S. Tomlinson. Burial followed in Oakwood Cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Lena Morrison Wheless; one daughter, Mrs. Frederick Nash of Smithfield; one son, James Albert Wheless, Jr. of Raleigh; five sisters, Mrs. W. C. Delbridge and Mrs. Jack May, both of Spring Hope, Mrs. W. R. Privette and Mrs. R. G. Privette, both of Zebulon, and Mrs. Eugene Privette of Newport News, Va.; and three grandchildren.



### Old Friends Part

Two old friends parted company yesterday here at The Times plant. E. F. Thomas, retired Times linotype operator, came to pay his final respects to his old adversary before the linotype was hauled away to storage. True to its past history of antagonism, the lino was reluctant to work and Thomas-as he has done so often in the past-beat on it and talk to it. The linotype, which Thomas referred to among other things-as "that cantankerous machine", finally gave in as Thomas, who set the first lines of type on the machine in 1912 beat out the same two lines- EDWARD FRANK JOHNSON and ERNEST FOSTER THOMAS --57 years later. The "Edward Frank Johnson" is the name of Thomas' nephew and son of the late Asher F. Johnson, long-time editor, and of Thomas' sister, Sadie Thomas Johnson; he died in childhood. The linotype, which was retired in 1967 with Thomas, was moved to make room for a new three-unit color news press due to arrive from Joplin, Mo. Wednesday.

## Market To Open September 2

The Flue-Cured Tobacco Marketing Committee, meeting in Raleigh last Friday, adopted a marketing schedule which sets Tuesday, September 2, as opening date for the Middle Belt and

the Louisburg market. The market opened last year on September 3, also a Tuesday.

The schedule includes opening dates of Tuesday, August 19, for the Eastern North Carolina Belt; Tuesday, September 2, for full sales of the Middle Belt and partial sales of the Old Belt; and September 16 for full opening of the Old Belt.

The committee action included confirming a July 23 opening for markets of Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina.

Border warehousemen, who had voted unanimously at Lumberton the previous night for a July 23 opening, indicated after the committee action they were uncertain which date they would follow.

A delay of only a few days in opening a belt or group of markets can mean that millions of pounds of leaf grown in the area will be taken elsewhere for sale. The delay thus can be inconvenient and expensive for growers and costly for warehousemen.

The industry committee adopted the schedule, which had been drafted by a subcommittee, by a vote of 23 to four, with four members abstaining. Buying interests voted for the plan.

A four-hour sales day and a four-day week, Monday through Thursday, have been adopted as "normal" for the 1969 season, with certain exceptions. The Eastern Belt will operate five hours a day for its first eight days of sales and will drop back to four hours daily on September 2.

The August 19 opening set for the East is a week earlier than last year's starting date of August 26. Sales in

Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina are starting eight calendar days earlier than last year.

Georgia and Florida will have three sales days during their opening week and five days of auctions the following week. This will give the belt eight consecutive days of selling other than the weekend.

South Carolina markets, also opening July 23, will operate for three days the first week and four days the second week.

## Williamson Renamed

B. N. Williamson of Franklinton has been reappointed to a second term on the Franklin County Jury Commission according to an announcement over the weekend by Resident Superior Court Judge Hamilton H. Hobgood.

Williamson and two other members were named in September of 1967 to the Commission. Serving with Williamson since that time are Louisburg businessman L. C. Hasty, appointed by Clerk of Court Ralph Knott, and Pearce's community businessman J. W. Perry, Jr. who was appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

Appointment of Williamson by Judge Hobgood is the first announcement on the Jury Commission makeup since the original swearing in of members last September. Williamson's appointment is for two years.