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CURB REPORTER

The weather is nice and bright just like March . . . J. N. Jackson going to his office from the barber shop. No news from him . . . Wayne Creasman buying a magazine at the drug store. Wayne is the weatherman . . . Chief Kiser picked up a pair of ladies gloves somebody lost on the street . . . Louis Avant says he is in favor of the highway coming through Tryon without having to cross the railroad. Says it can be done if enough Oak Hall bank opposite the stores is cut away and the road run alongside of the track, then around the depot and down where the old box factory was, then under the railroad coming into Trade Street near W. S. Green-Tom Cos-
a's office. F. W. Crandall likes that, too . . . St Augustine, Fla. is the oldest city in the United States and much of it is in Spanish design; some narrow streets, one so narrow that a man can stretch out his arms and touch both sides; here is located the oldest house and the oldest school house, the oldest fort, the Fountain of Youth, an early Indian burying ground and other points of interest that would claim the attention of interested students for several days. The oldest house has many antiques from all over the world. In St. Augustine you feel as if you were in direct touch with the old

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N. C. Sales Tax To Be Retained

Raleigh, Feb. 6.—The general assembly's joint finance committee gave its official approval today to the policy of continuing North Carolina's three per cent retail sales tax on a permanent basis. The tax was enacted as an emergency measure in 1933.

By an overwhelming oral vote the committeemen adopted the greater portion of the sales tax article in the 1939 revenue bill, which is expected to become North Carolina's permanent tax law. Only a scattering of "no" votes was heard.

Left open for further study was a section of the article allowing exemptions and providing for the diversion, if needed, from the highway to the general fund of an amount equal to the application of the sales tax on gasoline.

At present, certain basic foods are exempt from the sales tax, and the pending revenue bill also would exempt ice and medicines. Considerable pressure has been brought to exempt, also, all food for home consumption, horses and mules, farm implements costing less than \$25, fishing twine and certain basic building materials.

The committee also approved an amendment to increase license taxes paid by operators of "amusement" and "vending" slot machines. Representative Uzzel of Rowan, member of a sub-group which drafted the proposal, said it would bring in between \$200,000

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