

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section 2 of chapter 43 of the acts of 1946, as most recently amended by chapter 33 of the acts of 1950, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 3, the word "fifty-one" and inserting in place thereof the word:— fifty-two, — so as to read as follows:— *Section 2.* This act shall become inoperative on March thirty-first, nineteen hundred and fifty-two.

Approved February 9, 1951.

AN ACT VALIDATING AND CONFIRMING THE ACTS OF THE
DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTH-
BRIDGE AND ESTABLISHING SAID COMMITTEE AS LAWFULLY
CONSTITUTED. *Chap. 31*

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. All acts of the present democratic town committee, so called, of the town of Southbridge are hereby validated and confirmed insofar as said acts may have been invalid by reason of failure to comply with the provisions of section five of chapter fifty-two of the General Laws, as amended by section one of chapter three hundred and forty-six of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-eight, or by reason of failure to comply with any of the other provisions of said chapter fifty-two, and the membership of said committee and its officers, as appearing on the list filed by it with the state secretary, are hereby established as the duly constituted membership and officers thereof.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved February 9, 1951.

AN ACT EXTENDING THE HOURS DURING WHICH INDOOR
HOCKEY AND BASKETBALL GAMES MAY BE PLAYED ON THE
LORD'S DAY. *Chap. 32*

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 136 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 21, as most recently amended by chapter 119 of the acts of 1948, and inserting in place thereof the following section:— *Section 21.* In any city which accepts sections twenty-one to twenty-five, inclusive, by vote of its city council and in any town which accepts said sections by vote of its inhabitants, it shall be lawful on the Lord's day to take part in or witness any athletic outdoor sport or game, as hereinafter provided, between the hours of one thirty and six thirty post meridian and, in the case of a baseball game, for a further period beyond the hour of six thirty post meridian but only so long as the game can be played without the aid of artificial lighting. In any such city or town, it shall be lawful on the Lord's day to take part in or witness, as hereinafter provided, any indoor

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 136, § 21, etc., amended.

Certain sports and games permitted on Lord's day.

hockey or basketball game between the hours of one thirty post meridian and twelve midnight.

Approved February 9, 1951.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, STATE HOUSE,
BOSTON, April 3, 1951.

The Honorable EDWARD J. CRONIN, *Secretary of the Commonwealth, State House, Boston, Massachusetts.*

DEAR MR. SECRETARY:— I, Paul A. Dever, pursuant to the provisions of Article 48 of the Amendments to the Constitution, The Referendum, II. Emergency Measures, hereby declare that in my opinion the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety or convenience requires that the law entitled, "An Act extending the Hours during which Indoor Hockey and Basketball Games may be played on the Lord's Day", and the enactment of which was approved on February 9, 1951, should take effect forthwith.

I further declare that in my opinion said law is an emergency law and the facts constituting the emergency are as follows:

Unless said law becomes effective immediately, certain championship series currently scheduled to be played in the near future may be adversely affected in such manner as to seriously inconvenience the public and as to delay that decisive determination which is best calculated to promote sportsmanship in the American tradition free from such reproach and criticism as might impair the public peace and safety.

Very truly yours,

PAUL A. DEVER,
Governor of the Commonwealth.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, BOSTON, April 3, 1951.

I hereby certify that the accompanying statement was filed in this office by His Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at six o'clock P.M., on the above date, and in accordance with Article Forty-eight of the Amendments to the Constitution said chapter takes effect forthwith, being chapter thirty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and fifty-one.

EDWARD J. CRONIN,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.