

square and the August Mathison square in the town of Methuen to replace markers which were destroyed in the construction of route 93.

Approved October 10, 1960.

Chap. 690. AN ACT PROVIDING FOR REIMBURSEMENT BY THE COMMONWEALTH TO THE TOWN OF CHESTER FOR CERTAIN EXPENDITURES FOR VETERANS' BENEFITS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

There shall be allowed and paid out of the state treasury to the town of Chester, subject to appropriation and subject to the approval of the commissioner of veterans' services, such sum, not exceeding thirteen hundred and nine dollars and fifty cents, as said town would have been entitled to receive in reimbursement for veterans' benefits paid by it in the years nineteen hundred and fifty-seven, nineteen hundred and fifty-eight and nineteen hundred and fifty-nine under the provisions of section six of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, had said town made a proper and seasonable report thereof to said commissioner as required by said section six.

Approved October 10, 1960.

Chap. 691. AN ACT LIMITING THE NUMBER OF LICENSES WHICH MAY BE ISSUED BY A CITY OR TOWN FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter 310 of the acts of 1953, is hereby further amended by adding at the end the following paragraph:—

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the number of licenses which a city or town was authorized to grant in nineteen hundred and thirty-three under this section shall not be decreased because of any loss in population, but only because of cancellation, revocation or failure to renew existing licenses, and no further original licenses shall be granted in a city or town where the population has decreased since nineteen hundred and thirty-three until the number of licenses outstanding shall have been reduced for the aforementioned reasons to a number which is less than that which may be granted based on such reduced population and thereafter the number of licenses in force and effect at any one time during the license year shall be based on such reduced population as provided in this section.

Approved October 10, 1960.

Chap. 692. AN ACT AMENDING THE PROCEDURE FOR THE AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR BUILDINGS BY GOVERNMENTAL UNITS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section 44A of chapter 149 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph, as amended by section 1 of chap-

ter 590 of the acts of 1957, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—Every contract for the construction, reconstruction; alteration, remodeling, repair or demolition of any public building by the commonwealth or by any governmental unit thereof, estimated to cost more than five thousand dollars in the case of the commonwealth, and more than two thousand dollars in the case of any governmental unit thereof, shall be awarded to the lowest responsible and eligible general bidder on the basis of competitive bids in accordance with the procedure set forth in the provisions of sections forty-four B to forty-four L, inclusive. The awarding authority shall prepare for bidding purposes a sufficient number of sets of plans and specifications so that there will be available without cost or charge, except for a deposit for return of the same in good condition, two complete sets of plans and specifications for each general bidder requesting same and one complete set of plans and specifications for each sub-bidder requesting the same. The award of every such contract in connection with which approval by an officer, board or agency of the federal government is required shall be made within thirty days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after such approval; and the award of every contract subject to this section in connection with which approval by an officer, board or agency of the federal government is not required shall be made within thirty days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of the general bids therefor. If the general bidder selected as the general contractor fails to perform his agreement to execute a contract in accordance with the terms of his general bid and furnish a performance bond and also a labor and materials or payment bond as stated in his general bid in accordance with section forty-four F, an award shall be made to the next lowest responsible and eligible general bidder. The thirty-day time limit shall not be applicable to a second or subsequent award made after the expiration of the time limit with the consent of said next lowest responsible and eligible general bidder and his sub-bidders, and made because the original award made within the time limit was invalid, or because the general bidder failed to execute the general contract or to provide a performance bond and labor and materials or payment bond.

Approved October 10, 1960.

Chap. 693. AN ACT ABOLISHING THE APPROVING AUTHORITY FOR SCHOOLS FOR NURSES AND SCHOOLS FOR PRACTICAL NURSES AND TRANSFERRING ITS POWERS AND DUTIES TO THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING, INCREASING THE MEMBERSHIP OF SAID BOARD AND PROVIDING AN EXECUTIVE SECRETARY THEREFOR.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 13 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 13, as amended by section 1 of chapter 350 of the acts of 1953, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—*Section 13.* There shall be a board of registration in nursing, in this section and in sections fourteen to fifteen D, inclusive, called the board, consisting of twelve members, each a resident of the common-