

*Province Feb 8/47*

## The New Vista Home

**T**HE PERSON who is mentally ill is as much in need of careful and sympathetic and scientific treatment as the person who has a physical ailment. But it is difficult to bring governments to see this.

We have a mental hospital at Essondale which has been commended as one of the best of its kind in Canada. But such a hospital is not enough. Many might never have to go to Essondale if there were only psychiatric clinics which could take them in hand before their mental ailments develop too far. Many, also, could leave Essondale earlier than they do if there were some institution in which they could be cared for during their convalescence.

Such an institution there is on a small scale—New Vista Home in Kitsilano. This home, founded by Ernest Winch, M.L.A., some years ago and supported by private subscription, is doing an excellent bit of social service work and there are reports

that it may be taken over by the provincial government. It is to be hoped the reports have sound foundation.

In season and out of season, Mr. Winch has worked in the interests of the mentally afflicted and has spoken on their behalf in the Legislature times without number. When he could get no government help, he opened his own home to patients released from provincial mental institutions, cared for them, found them jobs and maintained contact with them until he was assured that they could look after themselves. He has borne a burden that should have been borne at public expense and for his work and his interest and his advocacy of an important cause the province owes him a debt it will never be able to repay.

But it can repay something by taking up now the task which is so close to Mr. Winch's heart.