

Ready to Prosecute *See Jan 18/44*

Council Keeps Eye On Winch Project

City Council flashed the "green light" Monday for a prosecution to be brought by its enforcement departments as soon as evidence of law-breaking may be obtained against E. E. Winch, MLA, involving a house at 318 1/2 West Second.

Aldermen said they would watch the upshot but they were uncertain as to whether the dwelling could be classified as a rooming house or a private hospital.

If it is the former, Mr. Winch has already been told that the city won't give him a license and that he could be summonsed for operating without one.

If it is the latter, the provincial secretary must first issue him a license under the Hospitals Act with a penalty of \$25 per day if none is obtained.

"It is impossible to anticipate how seriously the magistrate would view the matter," Corporation Counsel D. E. McTaggart, KC, reported, "or whether the punishment imposed would cause the offender to desist."

"The place is to be a mental hospital -- the first patient entered January 13--where the patients are really paying guests," contended R. E. Cummings in a letter written on behalf of 483 Kitsilano resi-

dents petitioning against the project.

Mr. Winch has advised the city that the purpose of the home is for the rehabilitation of women discharged from Essondale.

"The situation seems obscure," said Ald. G. H. Worthington.

Acting Mayor G. C. Miller told civic officials to keep a check on developments.