

## BROOKLYN PRISON CONDEMNED

### Commission Finds Woman's Department of Raymond Street Jail in a Most Disgraceful Condition.

ALBANY, Jan. 3.—The State Prison Commission to-day adopted a report condemning the woman's prison at the Raymond Street Jail, Brooklyn. The commission also adopted a resolution ordering that the authorities of New York City be notified and directed to take action to remedy the conditions, otherwise the State Commission threatens to secure an indictment of those responsible for the conditions in the jail.

The report on which this action was taken was the result of an investigation by Commissioners Stewart and Loyd. Among other things the report says:

"The woman's prison was found to be in a most disgraceful condition. When inspected Dec. 14, it contained 102 women. The prison is sixty-six years old, and does not contain separate cells. The women are housed in large sleeping apartments, some of which contain eight or nine beds. The beds are placed so closely together that there is no room to pass between them. This state of affairs should not be allowed to exist in any civilized community. As the women confined are generally drunkards, and as there is no privacy for a respectable woman, this commission should take a strong position with the authorities of the Borough of Brooklyn, and should insist that this shocking condition shall be terminated speedily. Nineteen of the 102 women were awaiting trial, and should they be acquitted on trial, it could be said that innocent women have been housed for weeks by the Borough of Brooklyn, in the above described disgusting surroundings. The population of the prison is constantly shifting; sometimes as many as 3,000 per month are received."

The commission recommends the erection of a new prison that would cost about \$250,000.