



NEW YORK TIMES Photo by Meyer Liebowitz

*This is the receiving room at the old Brooklyn House of Detention for Men (Raymond Street Jail). Again, too little room.*

*Afterwards, of course, money was allocated to cut out a door where it ought to have been in the first place.*

Figuratively speaking, the tradition of prison history has consistently reflected this oversight. The entire history of prison construction has indicated a wrong awareness of doors—and of the fact that the same doors which open to admit prisoners, will some day open to release them again to the community.

The new House of Detention for Men in Brooklyn represents our determination never to forget the door again. It will be a better protection from crime for the 3,000,000 inhabitants of Brooklyn. This new prison will provide the physical framework for modern programs of inmate treatment and rehabilitation which were impossible to implement in the inadequate and overcrowded “Raymond Street Jail”. Instead of re-

leasing inmates to the community further corrupted by their prison experience, in this new House of Detention for Men we will remember that prison doors open both ways and will so attempt to fulfill the true meaning of the word “Correction”.

### **Raymond Street Jail Sidelights**

#### *Overcrowding:*

Since this administration took office, Raymond Street Jail, with a cell capacity of 465, has been consistently overcrowded. On October 11, 1954, the prison was forced to accommodate a population of 848; in 1955, the highest census was 775; and in March, 1956, the census reached a high of 758.

Almost ten years have elapsed between the original planning of the new Brooklyn House of Detention