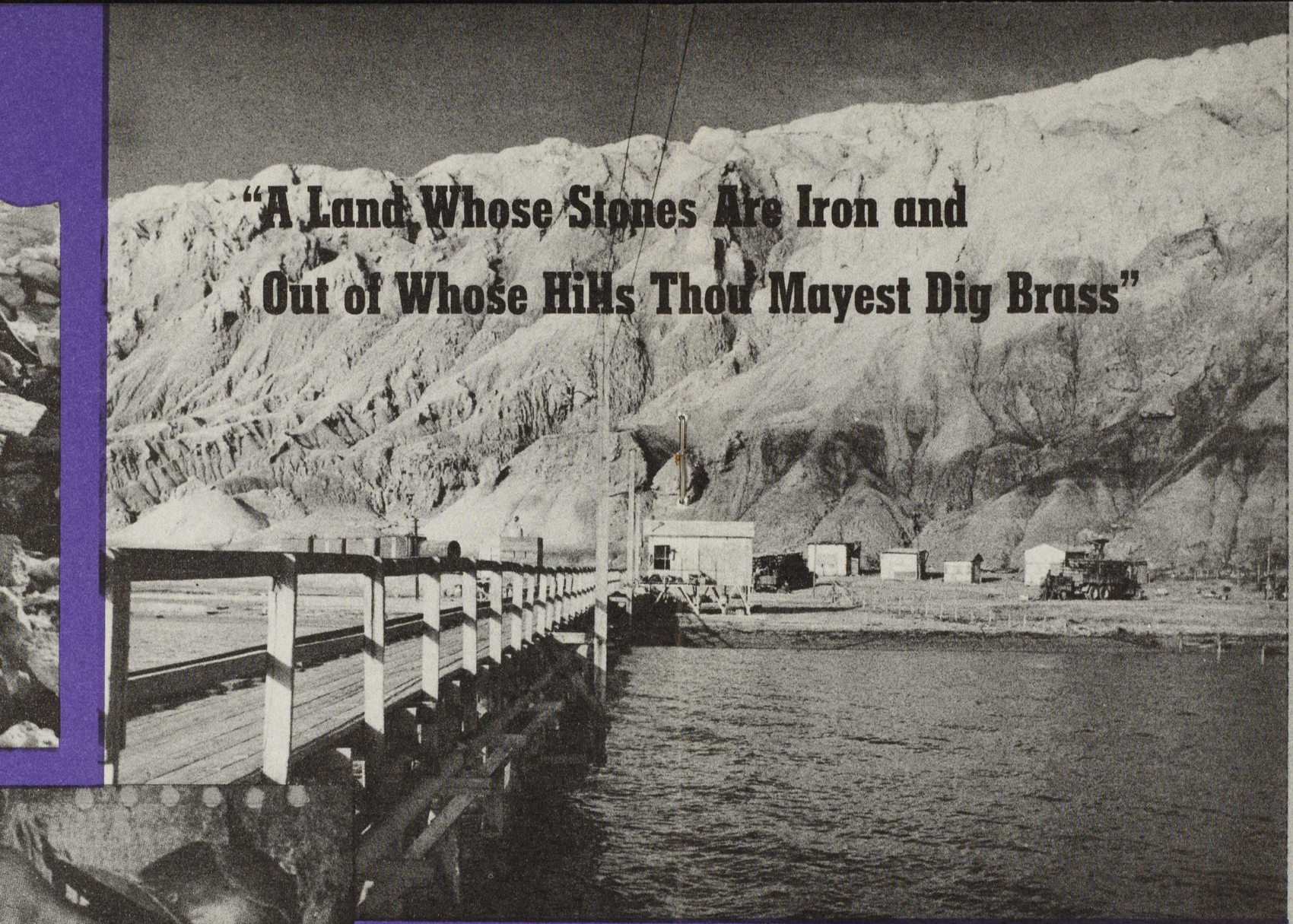
"A Land Whose Stones Are Iron and Out of Whose Hills Thou Mayest Dig Brass"



"Surely there is a mine for silver, and a place for gold which they refine.

Iron is taken out of the earth, and copper is smelted from the ore.

Men put an end to darkness . . .

And the thing that is hid they bring forth to light."

—Job 28

The Dead Sea (pictured above) will yield Israel an estimated 100,000 tons of potash in the next year, which means a gross income of about $5,000,000 at present prices.

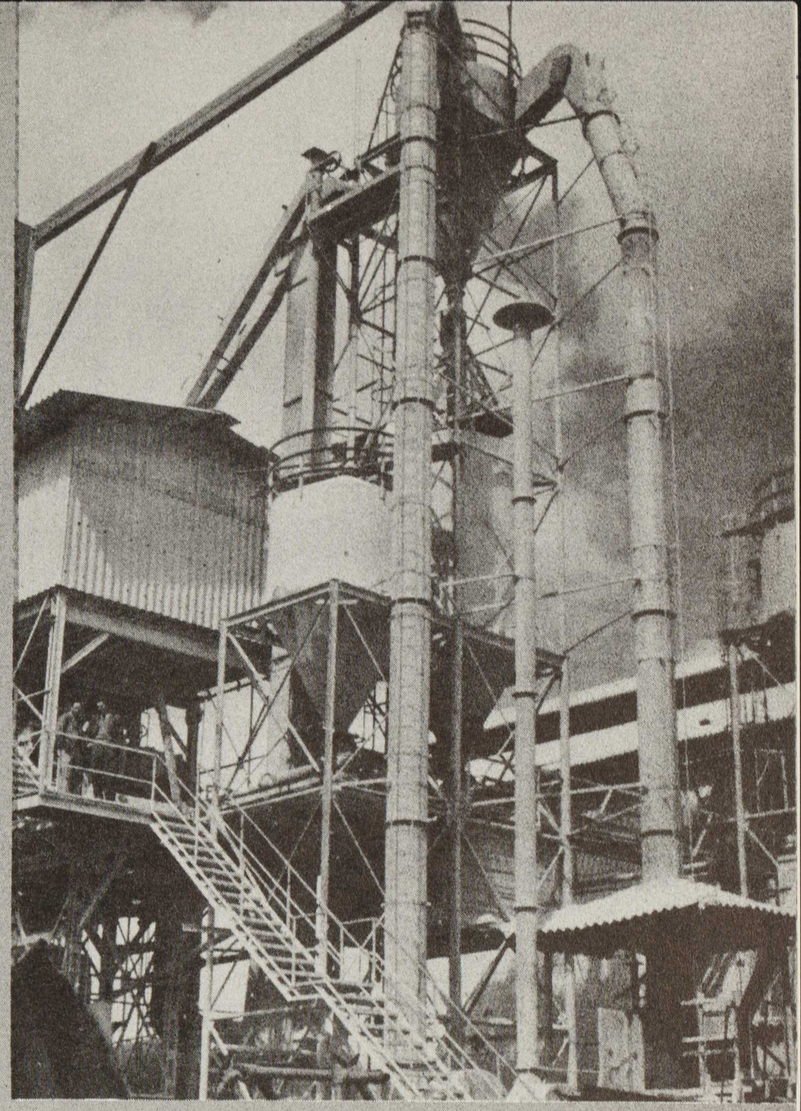
Copper (left) will again be taken from historic King Solomon's Mines near Elath. Plans are being drawn for the erection of a plant producing from 20,000 to 30,000 tons annually.

Phosphates, also abundant in the Negev, will soon be available, not only for home use, but for export. In 1954, 120,000 tons of rock will be extracted. Future expansion aims at as much as 2,000,000 tons a year.

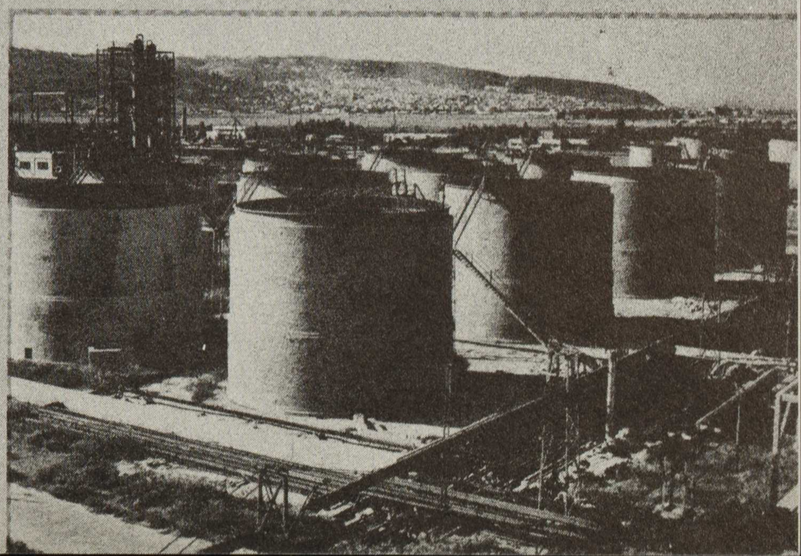
Glass sand of highest quality is already being mined, in quantities sufficient to eliminate the need to export. Together with ceramic clays now being exploited, this will save Israel an outlay of $1,000,000 in 1955.

In addition to these, manganese deposits exist, probably to an extent of 1,000,000 tons. Iron ores of a high concentration have been found. Development of these resources has been impeded by shortages of manpower and equipment and transit difficulties.

Geologists also report favorably on prospects for oil. Under the new oil mining law, licensed concerns are now conducting explorations.



Haifa plant produces fertilizers from phosphates.

Kaolin, a porcelain clay, is sorted in the Negev.

Haifa oil refineries.