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4—Friday, February 8, 1946

THE EMPORIA GAZETTE

William Allen White, Editor, 1895-1944
Mrs. W. A. White and W. L. White
Editors and Owners

PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY
Official Paper of Lyon County
and City of Emporia, Kansas

Telephones _____ 48 and 49

Member of Associated Press

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Terms of Subscription

Daily edition delivered by carrier to any part of Emporia, 20 cents a week, 75 cents a month.

By mail, one month _____ \$.75

By mail, one year _____ 7.00

Entered at the postoffice in Emporia, Kan., for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

WORK THE ONLY HOPE

Commenting on the suggestion of an Emporia Chamber of Commerce director that rental property be reassessed at higher valuation where rentals are sky-high, the Lawrence Journal-World feels this would not solve the housing needs of returning veterans. Lawrence has had rent ceilings during the war and the Journal-World editor says that the present number of rental units actually is fewer "because of the low ceilings prescribed by the OPA."

Property owners in Lawrence considered remodeling to provide more apartments but were not allowed a rental charge that would cover such an investment and no new housing units were provided. The editorial adds that the whole construction industry is in such confusion that relief through the fabrication of new dwellings is pushed even further into the future. Strike-bound America has many years of hard work ahead to make up for the wartime suspension of home building. The two suggestions mentioned in Emporia, higher valuations and actual OPA ceilings would not help, according to what happened in Lawrence, where it is emphasized that the only satisfactory answer to the rent and housing problems is to get to work.