



Sheriff William Linke

By 10:35 p.m., the crowd had tied a rope around Etherington's lifeless neck and hung his body from a telegraph pole on the southeast corner of the downtown square. At just seventeen years old, Carl Etherington was dead.

As a result of Carl Etherington's death, over twenty people were indicted for first degree murder. More than twenty others were indicted for assault, battery and rioting. Both Mayor Herbert Atherton and Sheriff William Linke were removed from their offices by Governor Judson Harmon. Atherton and Linke were charged with allowing the lynching to take place and for failure to do their duties. Both men resigned from their positions immediately following their suspension by the governor.

References:

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Huff, W.T. *The Newark Lynching: July 8, 1910*. Newark, OH: W.T. Huff, 1999.

Wheeler, Wayne B. *The Newark Lynching: Its Causes and Results*. Westerville, OH: The American Issue Publishing Co., 1910.



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**NEWARK'S
LYNCHING**





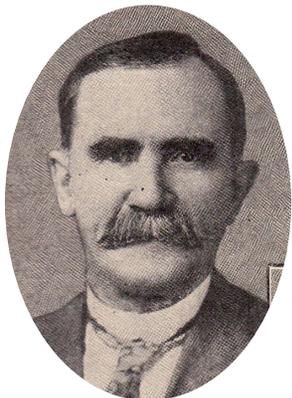
Carl Etherington

July 8, 1910 is a date that will forever be linked with Newark's history. It was on that day that Carl Mayes Etherington was beaten to death and hanged from a telegraph pole in downtown Newark. The event made national news and earned Newark the

reputation of being a lawless, uncivilized city.

The first decade of the twentieth century saw a battle raging between "wets" and "drys," or those who supported the legal sale and consumption of alcohol and those who did not.

In January 1909, an election was held to decide whether or not Licking County would go dry or stay wet. Overall, the county voted by 708 votes to go dry. However, the votes tallied in Newark showed that the citizens of the city did not feel the same way as the rest of the county. Newark had voted to stay wet by 1,557 votes. When the law was enacted to outlaw the sale of alcohol in Licking County, Newark saloons continued to stay open and were frequently patronized by police officers and even the mayor, Herbert Atherton. Many accounts claim that saloon owners also took part in illegal gambling and human



Mayor Herbert Atherton



Lewis Bolton's Saloon

trafficking rings. All of these crimes were overlooked by law enforcement thanks to a monthly fee that could be paid by business owners to ensure protection from the police.

On July 8, 1910, a raid was carried out by secret agents working with the Anti-Saloon League. The raid was called for and warrants were issued by Dr. E.J. Barnes, Granville's mayor. Twenty agents were sworn in as officers of the law by Mayor Barnes and were sent to a few of the worst saloons in Newark. One group of agents, including a teenager named Carl Etherington, was sent to a saloon operated by Lewis Bolton. Upon their arrival they were met by a mob equipped with an arsenal of weapons. The encounter quickly became violent. The police department ordered the agents to leave and arrested twelve of them. The rest knew that it was time to escape.

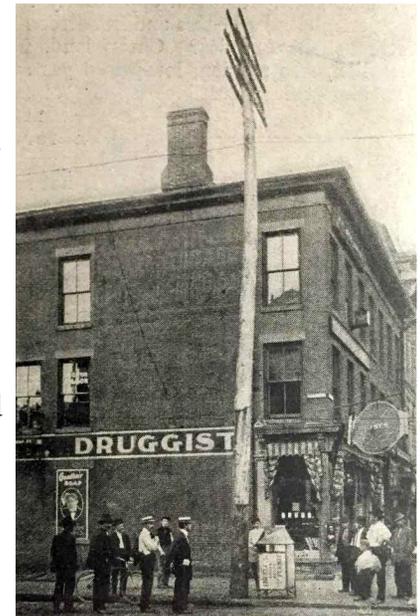
Unfortunately, Carl Etherington was unable to escape the mob with the rest of the agents. Carl was pursued for over two miles, passing a bar on Union Street that was owned by William Howard, a former police captain. Howard joined in the chase and was able to catch Etherington near the Newark city limits.

Howard caught Etherington by the collar and began beating him in the head with a blackjack. In an act of self-defense, Etherington pulled out his revolver and shot Howard. Carl Etherington was immediately arrested.



William Howard

The mob followed Etherington to the jail and remained gathered outside. Some accounts report that there were as many as 8,000 people in attendance, with others estimating the crowd to be 5,000 people. At 8:15 p.m., word spread that William Howard had died from his injury, further igniting the mob's rage. By 9:45 p.m., the crowd had successfully beaten down the gate to the jail and gained access inside. Carl Etherington was seized by the mob at approximately 10:30 p.m. They beat him, kicked him, and hit him repeatedly in the head with a hammer. Etherington reportedly told the crowd, "Tell my mother that I died trying to do my duty."



Site of Etherington's lynching