

# Shocking Murder Committed Near Rexton, N.B.

(Moncton Times)  
 One of the most shocking tragedies in the history of New Brunswick, and certainly the worst by far in Kent County, occurred about one mile above the town of Rexton Thursday morning shortly after 7 o'clock when Robert Childs, an aged man in the vicinity of 75 years of age shot Mrs. Childs, wife of his nephew, Harold Childs, the 16 year old son of Mrs. John Childs, and Louis Hebert, a neighbor of the Childs' and also a fire to the house and barn the larger being completely destroyed, six cattle and two horses also being either burned or shot. Mrs. Childs died from the effects of the bullet that pierced her lungs, last evening, and Louis Hebert was reported late last night to be in a critical condition and not expected to live many hours. Harold Childs, who received a bullet in the thigh was not seriously injured.

**Murderer Lived in Moncton Since Last Fall**  
 The aged murderer, Robert Childs, who is believed to have committed the awful deed while deranged, is known in Moncton, he having lived here since last November or December, and boarded at the house of Mr. N. D. Poirier, Main Street near the Post Office. While here, Childs gave the name of Robert Mouton. He did not have any occupation but lived on his money which he accumulated while residing in British Columbia for many years. He returned to Kent County from the West about two years ago, and since that time lived about Rexton and Moncton. The industrial where his nephew and family lived, was his birthplace and for some years he has been under the impression that he had an interest in the place and should be allowed to place there when he wished. On more than one occasion at least, Childs is known to have stated both at Rexton and Moncton that he would burn down the place and shoot the occupants if they did not move off by this spring. He also threatened harm to the family of his nephew, John Childs, but the threats were not taken seriously as he was believed to be deranged on this particular point.

**Details of the Tragedy**  
 Word of the shooting and arson was received by telephone in Moncton yesterday morning by Chief Rideout and aroused intense interest during the day. The story of the triple shooting affair as received by telephone by The Times from Rexton last night throw additional light on the sad affair that has resulted in the death of one of the victims at least. It appears that Robert Childs left Moncton either Tuesday or Wednesday for Rexton and it is fairly well established that he went to Buctouche

hired a horse and drove through to the Richibucto river, Wednesday it has been learned, that he was in the vicinity of the John Childs' home, and that he also called at the home of Mr. Alexander Robertson, a farmer who lives about five miles up the river from Rexton. When there, he did not give any name and it is not known just what he wanted there. Later he was seen tying his horse at the end of the lane leading to the John Childs' property which is situated on a point extending into the Richibucto river. He then entered the woods which are near by and stayed there an hour or more finally appearing and driving off. Where he went is not known at present.

**Proposed to Burn the House and Barn**  
 Thursday morning about 7 o'clock as Mr. Robert Harding, a resident of that vicinity, who was working on the Childs' farm was going to his work he met Robert Childs at the end of the lane and the two walked together to the barnyard. Childs said to Harding that he wished him to do something for him, adding that he knew he would not like to do it but it was a case of "you must do it." Arriving at the barn, Robert Childs proposed to Harding that the latter fire the house and barn, which Harding said he certainly would not do. Childs then turned away and entered the house where Mrs. John Childs was, her husband being then to work at a saw mill in Rexton. Harold Childs, the son of John Childs mentioned at the time to Harding that he had seen two revolvers in the pocket of Robert Childs, and he and Harding started for the house to investigate. Before they reached there, shots rang out in quick succession. Rushing in to the house, they found that Mrs. John Childs had been shot in the lungs. Robert Childs at once opened fire on Harold Childs and Harding, a bullet lodging in the latter's thigh, but Harding was not hit. Childs then fired the house and started for the barn bent on setting fire there. Harding with some effort extinguished the blaze in the house, and by this time the barn was in flames.

**Neighbors Rushed to Assistance**  
 Seeing the Childs' barn ablaze, Mr. Louis Hebert, who lives on an adjoining farm about a quarter of a mile away, rushed to assist. He succeeded in entering the burning building and rescued one horse and two cattle. The horse was however shot dead by Robert Childs. The latter then locked Hebert in the burning building but he managed to escape through a window. Childs at once fired upon Hebert, two bullets piercing his breast. Childs then made off in the direction of the woods and has not been seen since. Other neighbors were then on the scene and the injured people were taken care of and medical attention summoned.

**Live Stock Perished in Flames**  
 Six head of cattle and one horse perished in the flames, while the second horse was shot by Childs as above stated. A truck wagon was also burned and some other articles.

Dr. R. G. Garvan, of Rexton, responded to the request for medical attendance and Miss Hackett, a trained nurse was also summoned. Everything possible was done for Mrs. Childs and the others, but all efforts in the first named case proved unavailing and she passed away about five o'clock last evening. The victim of the sad tragedy was about 45 years of age, and a native of the United States. A family survives.

Mr. Hebert who is also expected to die of his injuries, is a man about 55 years of age and came to Kent County from France some years ago. He has a wife and large family.

**Sheriff With Posse Search For Murderer**  
 As soon after the affair as possible, Sheriff C. H. Boudreau, of Richibucto was notified of what had taken place and at once gathered together a posse

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to go in search of the murderer. All the afternoon and night the man hunt continued but no sign of the man was seen. Dominion police also joined in search. During the afternoon the party heard the sound of a shot in the woods in that vicinity and the belief was expressed that Childs had committed suicide, as he had in his possession two guns. The majority, however, do not hold to this belief, and are inclined to think that Childs has hidden in some place prepared on the occasion of his visit to the woods on the day previous to the murder.

### Chief Rideout Asked to Assist

Yesterday morning, Chief Rideout was notified of the tragic occurrence by Magistrate H. M. Ferguson, with the request that assistance be sent to aid in the hunt for Childs. Chief Rideout notified the Kent County authorities that Attorney General Byrne would have to be communicated with.

Chief Rideout speaking of the sad affair said he was of the opinion that the search for the murderer might go on for some time unavailingly as there is a considerable forest in that vicinity. Judging also from the actions of Childs, the chief said it was quite probable that he would put up a bitter struggle for his life rather than be taken.

Despite his age, Childs is a strong man, over six feet in height and weighing about 150 pounds. He is smooth shaven and has a slightly shrunken shoulder. With his brother James, who lives some four or five miles from Rexton, Robert Childs was for four years in British Columbia, where they made considerable money. James settled down on a farm coming back to Kent County, while Robert lived on his money.

The Childs family are well known and highly respected in the community and the sympathy of all is felt for Mr. Hebert and his family. They are industrious hard working people and the sadness of Mr. Hebert's case is deepened by the fact that he received his injuries while in a heroic effort to save his neighbor's property in the face of the fact that an obviously insane acting man was shooting right and left on the premises.

### BODY OF ROBERT CHILDS FOUND

The body of Robert Childs, the slayer of the late Mrs. John Childs, was found Wednesday forenoon at 11:20 about three-quarters of a mile south of the Childs home where the tragedy of last Thursday morning was enacted. The body was discovered by former Sergt. Amos S. Belliveau, and Dominion Police Sergeant Gibson, who were searching the woods across the creek from the Childs' home. They had been on the search all morning and came upon the body of the murderer quite by accident. When found the body was lying behind a hemlock windfall. Childs had shot himself in the right temple and had two revolvers by his side. One was empty and the other held a few shots. Before the murderer had put an end to his life he had shot fire to a few leaves with a view of burning himself up after he had fired the shot. The fire burned the clothes off the body and from the knee to the ankle of his left leg was burned to the bone. His left arm was also badly burned. No money or valuables were found by the searchers, the probability being that anything that Childs had in his possession had been burned up.

## Prince Of Wales Coming In August

Ottawa, May 20—The Prince of Wales will visit Canada in August of this year, and will open the new parliament buildings at Ottawa. Sir Thomas White stated in the House this afternoon, just before Commons rose for dinner, that he had received a message from His Majesty the King through the Governor-general as follows:

"I am very glad to tell you that with my entire approval, the Prince of Wales will visit Canada this year in August. He will open the new parliament buildings in Ottawa. It is also understood that the Prince of Wales will also open the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto the same month.

## No Change In National Railways Management

### Senate Votes Down Bostock Amendment - Senator Fowler Favors Nine Directors For System

Ottawa, May 20—A proposal in the senate to have the board of the Canadian National Railways reduced in size and made responsible to parliament rather than to the government, was defeated today.

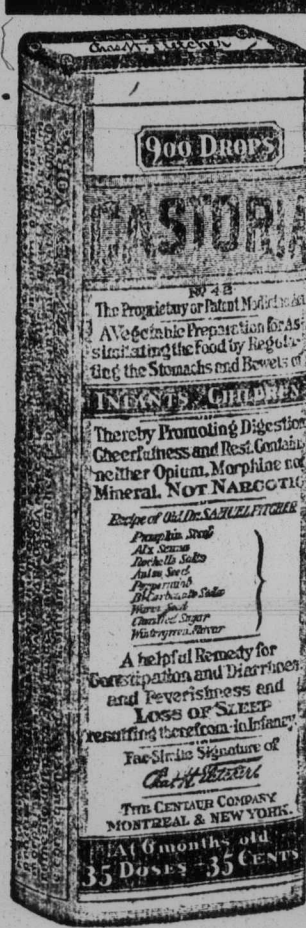
The amendment offered by Senator Bostock, leader of the opposition, called for the appointment of a chief and two assistant directors for the administration of railway.

Sir James Loughheed said that if government ownership was to succeed it had to have a fair show. There must be business administration. The road must be run by a board of directors, as other successful roads were, rather than by the commission of three.

Senator Fowler noted that the bill authorized the appointment of fifteen directors. He thought nine would be enough. Parliament had been in session three months today. While a great deal of legislation had been dealt with much still remains to be disposed of, and it is quite possible that the house will run a full five months. Today was one of the house of commons' working days. The consolidated railway bill, which was introduced on the first day of the session, was under consideration and its four hundred non-contentious clauses were expeditiously passed.

### IMO AND MONT BLANC BOTH BLAMABLE

Ottawa, May 21—Both the Imo and the Mont Blanc are held responsible for the explosion in Halifax harbor that caused great disaster and loss of life. This is the decision of the supreme court which heard the appeal of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique vs. the Imo. The chief justice and Mr. Justice Dunnington held that the Imo was solely to blame, but other members of the court, Anglin, Brodeur, and Mignault, are of the opinion that the appeal should be allowed, holding both ships liable. Damages will be assessed accordingly in the exchequer court.



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 "Scores of them, madam. Some people never say anything about the medicines they buy, but scarcely a day passes that we do not hear of some case in which Dr. Chase's Nerve Food has effected a cure. It is also great for anemia, and all ailments arising from a thin, watery condition of the blood."  
 "Well, I am going to try it. How much is it a box?"  
 "Fifty cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.75. Better take the six, for you save a little on the price, and you need that many to give it a fair trial."  
 "Do you think I will?"  
 "Oh, yes, the process of building up the nervous system is necessarily slow. You will no doubt feel benefited after the first box or two have been used, but too many make the mistake of neglecting the treatment then instead of keeping on until the nerves are fully restored."  
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