

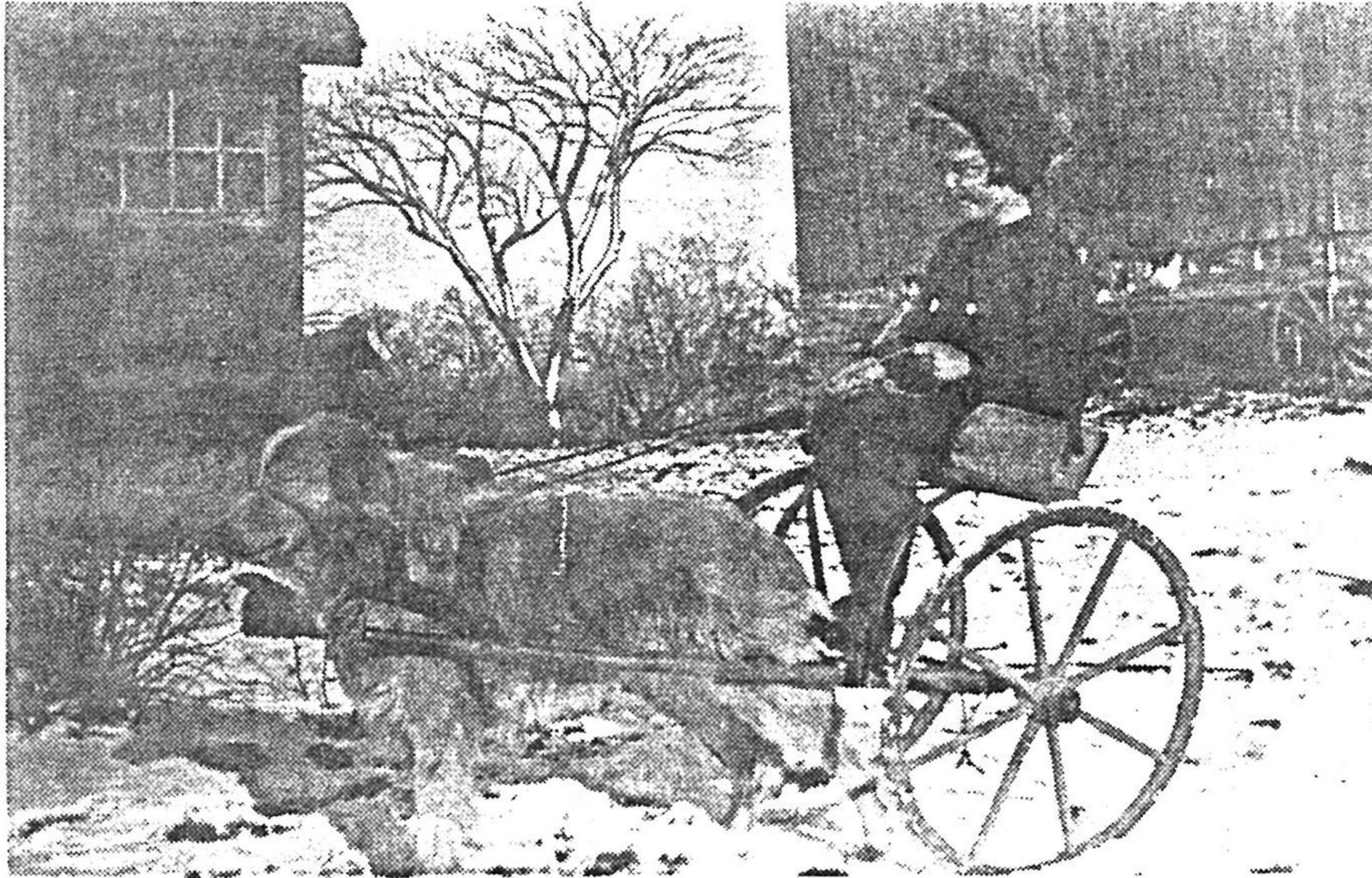
The

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A young Flora (Hicks) Minaker, preparing to set off to Roses School in the family Dog Cart

Roses Lane - by any other Name!

Prince Edward County is preparing to gain "911" access to emergency services in the future. Since calls will be handled by a central dispatch, it will be essential for callers to pinpoint their exact location clearly. Out of initial talks between county and township officials, it was discovered that there exists a Roses Lane in both North and South Marysburgh. That means one of the townships will have to change the name.

There are people in South Marysburgh who are reluctant to see the old name go. It seems to be an inevitable and sad reality that new technology often means letting go of the past. But in this instance, things can be turned around if a name of historical significance can be chosen to replace the one being lost. By taking a closer look at the community around Roses Lane, and its history, perhaps a few good choices may be unearthed.

Some might remember a time when the smaller communities within South Marysburgh had names of their own. Roses Lane was part of Babylon. The road extended roughly north-south from the bay to the lake. About halfway back another road met it; which is now the

Middle Road. At one time, the Rose Family used the road as their lane way, but a short distance from the corner of Roses Lane and Middle Rd. the Babylon schoolhouse sat. It was a wooden structure and was probably built in the late 1700's. Some genealogists have documented attendance as early as 1805. A newspaper article by Stephen Dulmage about 1950, gives the population of the community of Babylon fifty families, between the years 1877 to 1910.

It was during these years that the Carmen Church was a focal point in the spiritual and social life of Babylon. Built in 1877, it was a fine brick structure, actually more detailed than many structures from the same era, which are presently standing. It reportedly filled twice over on Sundays. Of interest to us today, is the shed for housing horse and buggies during service. It was to one side of the church, along the Middle Rd. This shed was torn down when no longer needed; that is, when horse and buggy was replaced by the automobile. No one is certain of just when, but it was not there when the church itself was closed in 1926. The church could no longer afford to

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