



Twenty-six little faces have melted back into the masses of the Lincoln Public Schools. Two weeks ago the Lincoln Free School closed.

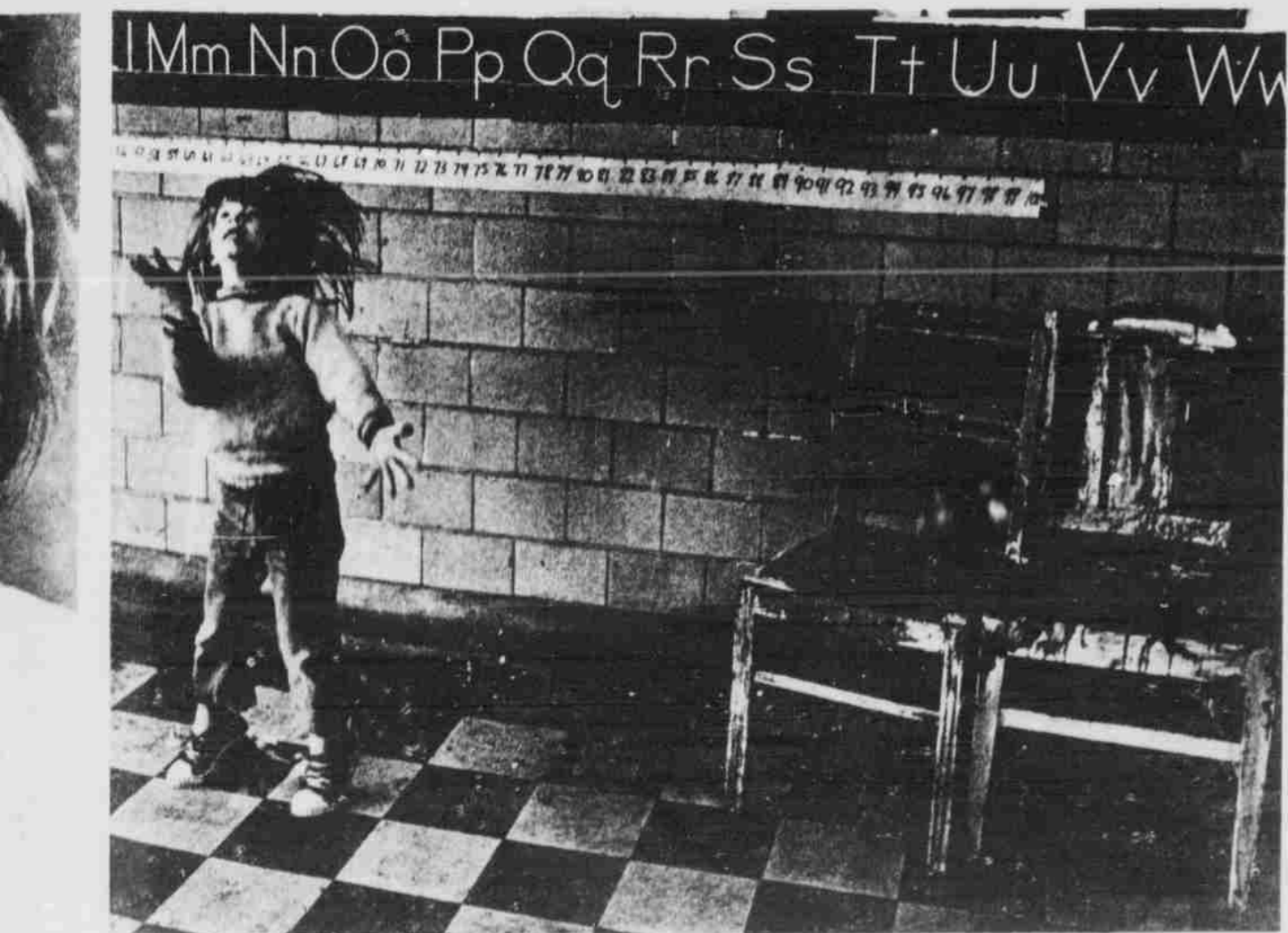
The one-and-a-half year old experiment in education just couldn't find the answer to two important questions: how to get accredited and how to meet operating expenses.

"Two weeks ago last Friday we had a parents meeting. We had to decide whether or not to sign a lease for the building for another year," teacher Mary Zeman explained.

"The chances looked poor for getting accredited—we'd applied so many times before and had been turned down for different reasons.

"Because we weren't sure what the future would be, we decided to close the school.

"It wasn't that anybody wanted to close. We had the kids, the teachers and the commitment—but we didn't have the money."



photos by Gail Folda