

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

## AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

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### Demand a Six Months' School Term For All Farm Boys and Girls.

1. Rhode Island—190.2 days.
2. Connecticut—181.2 days.
3. Maryland—179.8 days.
4. New York—178.6 days.
5. California—178.0 days.
6. New Jersey—176.7 days.
7. Wisconsin—173.0 days.
8. Nebraska—170.5 days.
9. Iowa—168.6 days.
10. Washington—164.0 days.
11. South Dakota—163.8 days.
12. Michigan—161.6 days.
13. Massachusetts—160.7 days.
14. Kansas—160.0 days.
15. Utah—157.0 days.
16. Delaware—157.0 days.
17. Ohio—155.0 days.
18. Illinois—154.8 days.
19. New Hampshire—149.7 days.
20. Pennsylvania—149.4 days.
21. Vermont—147.0 days.
22. North Dakota—143.2 days.
23. Maine—142.5 days.
24. Georgia—141.5 days.
25. Montana—138.5 days.
26. Missouri—137.7 days.
27. Wyoming—136.0 days.
28. Minnesota—132.5 days.
29. Nevada—131.8 days.
30. Mississippi—131.0 days.
31. Virginia—130.5 days.
32. Indiana—130.3 days.
33. Oklahoma—128.5 days.
34. West Virginia—127.5 days.
35. Louisiana—124.1 days.
36. Colorado—123.8 days.
37. Tennessee—122.0 days.
38. Texas—119.2 days.
39. Oregon—118.7 days.
40. Idaho—112.5 days.
41. Kentucky—110.6 days.
42. Alabama—108.5 days.
43. Arizona—105.0 days.
44. Florida—100.1 days.
45. Arkansas—98.0 days.
46. South Carolina—94.5 days.
47. North Carolina—93.3 days.
48. New Mexico—90.1 days.

Length of School Term in the Various States.

THE GREATEST question outside the realm of morals, that can be asked of any people today, is this: Are your boys and girls being fitted for the fierce, keen competition of trained minds, fiercer and keener than the world has ever before known, that is to mark the industrial battle of the next fifty years?

Farmers of North Carolina, farmers of South Carolina, your boys and girls are not being so trained—the farm boys and girls. Proof of this, proof that is nothing less than alarming, is furnished by an official diagram just published by the United States Government and reproduced herewith. Our city schools, the schools for city boys and girls in the Carolinas, are about up to the American average; but for our country boys and girls, as this startling official table shows, the average school term in North and South Carolina is yet the lowest in the American Union with the single exception of wild and woolly New Mexico. Only New Mexico, the land of Indians and Mexican "greasers," saves us from being at the foot of the whole list.

What shall we do about it? There is but one thing to do. Our Legislatures meet in a few weeks now, and to them our farmers, and farmers' wives, and farmers' boys and girls, must all join in this one overwhelming, imperious demand:

"You shall not adjourn until you make arrangements for at least an average six months' school term for all the farm boys and girls in the State."

The task is not too big, if we make up our minds to it. Let inheritance and income taxes be levied until the rich pay as large a share of taxes as they do in England; and then make whatever added increase in the general tax levy is needed to provide the six months' school term for country children. We must have it.

Get behind your member of the Legislature. Write to him; talk to him, camp on his trail. Get your Farmers' Union behind him; get your teacher, your preacher, your doctor, to join with you, and make it plain to him that if he comes back home without making a fight, and a dead-earnest, genuine fight, for a six months' school term for the country boys and girls, he will never again hold an office of trust or profit.

Georgia, Virginia and Tennessee are doing better, and we can only urge them to keep up their fight; but to our North Carolina and South Carolina readers the call is imperative. They must wake up and get busy at once.

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