

Service Insurance Act are extremely low, consult the following figures:—

Life Premiums per \$1,000 Insurance.

Age	Civil Service Rates.		Regular Commercial Rates.	
	All life	Single Payment.	All life.	Single Payment.
25	\$ 11 50	\$ 168 85	\$ 17 30	\$ 333 00
35	16 31	223 67	22 75	410 00
45	24 65	303 35	32 30	505 00
55	40 04	414 32	50 45	620 00

Age	Civil Service Rates.			Regular Commercial Rates.		
	10 Payment Life.	15 Payment Life.	20 Payment Life.	10 Payment Life.	15 Payment Life.	20 Payment Life.
25	\$22 27	\$17 13	\$14 72	\$40 50	\$30 00	\$25 00
35	29 79	23 04	19 02	48 90	35 50	30 25
45	41 13	32 22	28 24	61 00	46 00	38.70
55	58 68	47 33	42 74	79 00	62 00	53.65

The Government issues policies only upon the "Non-Participating" plan: that is, the sum insured only is paid, there being no "profits." To make the comparison fair, the corresponding "Non-Participating" commercial rates have been chosen. The latter represent something of an average of the rates quoted by several companies; the rates of some being higher, and of others lower, than the figures given above. The variations, however, are after all comparatively trifling.

As between the C. S. rates and the Commercial rates, the former are seen to be lower to a very marked degree. Under the Single Premium plan, which we commend to such intending insurers as can afford that method of payment, the C. S. rates are more favorable at the younger ages than those of the insurance companies by some 50%; and at all ages, and under all plans the differences are striking. The cause of the differences is somewhat too technical to be referred to now, but most persons will understand the matter sufficiently when we state that the Government rates are computed upon the assumption that money is worth 6%;

whereas the companies, having to keep well within the actual earning-power of money, assume 3½% only. Moreover, the Government makes absolutely no expense charge for administration.

Let it be here noted that in making the above comparison, there is no intention of criticising the insurance companies. For the most part, they do business upon the best terms consistent with safety. The Government system is a special case, and those directly interested should be informed of the facts. There is still plenty of business left for the companies after civil servants have taken the maximum allowed under the C. S. Insurance Act. On the other hand, civil servants should acquaint themselves sufficiently well with the advantages of their own system not to be deceived by possible criticisms on the part of agents of the companies. We have known agents to try to explain away the difference in rates; to pretend that the companies offered additional advantages in their contracts sufficient to compensate for such difference; that the C. S. policy contract was old-fashioned, and so forth. The human eye is old-fashioned, too, but useful none the less; and similarly, from the point of view of family protection, which is the aim of any genuine system of life insurance, the Government contract is not open to criticism. The insurance must be for the benefit of wife or children (or future wife or children in the case of bachelors) or of some combination of these immediate dependents. The contract cannot be assigned or otherwise diverted from the preferred beneficiaries—all of which is clearly in the interest of the family.

An additional advantage lies in the fact that the best possible facilities are afforded for payment of premiums. If the insurer so wishes, his premiums may be paid monthly to the Receiver General, in the form of abatements of salary, thus spreading the cost evenly over the year, and resulting in the