

1628.—Promotion—Commissioned Officers from Warrant Rank—Age Limit for Selective Promotion to Lieutenant and Abolition of "Long and Zealous" Promotions
(C.W.10287/47.—14 May 1948.)

Under the new retired pay terms a Lieutenant (ex-Warrant) requires a minimum of 2 years' service in that rank before he becomes eligible for the retired pay of that rank. The promotion of Commissioned Officers from Warrant Rank to Lieutenant at or near the present upper age limit of 49 therefore gives no title to a Lieutenant's retired pay. With a view to ensuring that officers (ex-Warrant), as a class, shall obtain the maximum benefits, it has been decided to reduce the upper age limit for promotion to Lieutenant to 48.

2. Selections will continue to be made twice yearly on 1st April and 1st October for promotions to fill vacancies for Lieutenant occurring during the following six months. The zone for selection will be between 5 years' seniority as a Commissioned Officer from Warrant Rank and the age of $47\frac{1}{2}$ on 1st April and 1st October. The seniority qualification may be temporarily reduced in individual Branches when insufficient suitable officers would otherwise be available for selection for promotion. The change to $47\frac{1}{2}$ will be introduced gradually, as follows:—

Officers up to $48\frac{1}{2}$ will be considered for promotion on 1st October, 1948.

Officers up to $48\frac{1}{2}$ will be considered for promotion on 1st April, 1949.

Officers up to $48\frac{1}{2}$ will be considered for promotion on 1st October, 1949.

Officers up to 48 will be considered for promotion on 1st April, 1950.

Officers up to $47\frac{1}{2}$ will be considered for promotion on 1st October, 1950.

Officers up to $47\frac{1}{2}$ will be considered for promotion on 1st April, 1951 and subsequent half-years.

3. The arrangements mentioned in paragraph 2 above will apply to all Warrant Officer Branches.

4. The question of promotion to the rank of Lieutenant for "long and zealous" service has also been under consideration. This arrangement was introduced in 1903 and then offered almost the only opportunity by which ratings could eventually attain Lieutenant's rank. Ratings in most Branches now have opportunities to reach Lieutenant and higher ranks under the Upper Yardman Scheme (A.F.O. 5538/46), the "direct" promotion scheme (A.F.O. 4826/46) and the Calvert Scheme (A.F.O. 131/45). It is therefore no longer necessary to maintain the "long and zealous" scheme, especially as its maintenance will tend to reduce the numbers of Lieutenants (ex-Warrant) who can obtain a Lieutenant's retired pay. It has therefore been decided that from the 1st April, 1949, no further promotions for "long and zealous" service will be made.

(A.F.Os. 131/45, 4826/46, 5538/46, 1702/47 and 2557/47.)

(Commodore, R.N. Barracks, Portsmouth's No. 021/7 of 21 Apr. 1947.)