

Thursday, 18th October, 1979.

The Gilt Edged market was quiet, steady and more or less unchanged in price in all sections at the opening. Business was on a fairly small scale throughout the day after the large rise in activity which had been seen on the previous day. Short dated bonds made some improvement during the morning and rises of an $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{16}$ were widespread in this section by lunchtime. Little change was seen, however, in the medium and long dated issues and prices were unchanged by lunchtime. Business continued on a very small scale during the afternoon in advance of the publication of the money figures at 2.30 p.m. and these had largely been discounted. The whole market closed the day looking reasonably steady and more or less unchanged from the opening in the medium and long dated issues.

The industrial market opened steady at around the overnight levels. Prices tended to drift lower during the day on small selective selling and with little buying interest evident most sections closed at the worst levels. Oil shares provided a very firm section. Oil Exploration were sharply higher on continued bid rumours with Burmah also very firm on possible renewed compensation terms while B.P. met good investment demand on the threat of higher oil prices. Brooke Bond moved ahead following the final statement while Hawker Siddeley were marginally higher after their interim statement. Kaffir issues drifted throughout the day on the gold fix price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 469.5 (down 2.8)

C. N. D. Sales and Purchases NIL

Bank Sales and Purchases NIL