

Tuesday, 23rd October, 1979.

The Gilt Edged market opened on a firm note with gains of $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ on the appearance of buyers, some of whom were closing short positions. These early gains were not, however, maintained and by mid-morning prices were almost back to their overnight levels. Business remained sparse and during the lunch period, a Press report that the Chancellor would make a statement in the House of Commons, supposedly on exchange control regulations, caused prices to drift, with the market closing with losses of $\frac{1}{8}$ on the overnight levels.

The Industrial market opened slightly easier on the continued decline on Wall Street. Prices tended to move lower throughout the day on small selective selling and, with little or no buying interest, all sections closed at the worst levels. Oil shares were a particularly dull sector on profit-taking after the recent firm tone, while Insurance and Electrical issues moved easier on balance. Kaffir shares were marginally lower on the gold fix price, while Laporte eased following the rights issue announcement.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 462.4 (down 4.3)

<u>Bank</u>	Sales	£	664,000
	Purchases	£	670,000
	Nett Purchases on balance	£	6,000