

Friday, 23rd November, 1979.

The Gilt Edged market was quiet and steady at the opening and the only change in prices was seen in the short-dated bonds, which were about $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{8}$ above the previous night's closing levels. Business was on a fairly small scale throughout the day and the long end of the market was rather unsettled during the morning by news from the Middle East, in particular concerning the situation in Iran. Most of the business was seen in the short-dated bonds and these improved quite sharply as the jobbers were short of stock and by lunchtime rises in this area of the market amounted to $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$. The medium and long-dated issues also improved during the afternoon and the whole market closed looking reasonably steady, about $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ above the opening levels.

At 3.30 p.m. an announcement was made of a further issue of Government long-dated stock which took the form of an issue by tender of £1,000 million 14% Treasury Stock 1998-2001, at a minimum tender price of £95.50.

The Industrial market opened slightly easier on the latest Treasury report. Prices tended to drift lower throughout the day in extremely quiet trading, with most sections tending to close at the worst levels. Banking and Property shares failed to maintain the better levels, while Kaffir issues were lower on the gold fix price. Allied Brewery were a dull feature ahead of their figures due next Tuesday, while Oil Exploration were sharply higher on the announcement that talks are in progress which may lead to a further bid by a third party.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 407.5 (down 3.5)

<u>Bank</u>	Sales	£	34,089,000
	Purchases		NIL
	Nett Sales on balance	£	34,089,000