

Thursday, 10th January, 1980.

The Gilt Edged market was very quiet and steady at the opening and there was hardly any change in prices compared to the previous night's closing level. Business was on a very small scale throughout the morning although once again a demand was seen for the low coupon short-dated bonds. A slightly firmer tendency developed around midday for no very apparent reason, and buyers appeared for the long-dated high coupon issues. During the afternoon, following the announcement of the Central Government Borrowing Requirement, quite a substantial demand built up for the long-dated tap stock and the authorities were able to sell a sufficient amount of Treasury 14% Stock 1998/2001 to be able to announce that official supplies had been exhausted. On the news of this, the market improved further and closed the day looking firm in all sections, with rises of $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ of a point being widespread.

The offer for sale by tender of £1,000 million Exchequer 14% Stock 1984 was not fully subscribed and all tenders at the minimum price of 96 $\frac{1}{2}$ were allotted in full.

The Industrial market opened steady following yesterday's firmer tone. Prices tended to fluctuate marginally during the day in extremely quiet trading and, with no influences to affect the market, most sections closed slightly higher on balance. Store and Property shares were firm sectors, while Banking issues were dull on rumours of a large wage claim by the banking union. Kaffir issues regained part of the recent losses on buying interest, while English China Clays were unchanged on the final figures.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 426.4 (up 2.9)

BANK

Sales	£	362,145,000
Purchases	£	25,231,000
Nett Sales on balance	£	336,914,000