

Friday, 18th April, 1980.

The Gilt Edged market opened steady, with the most recent issue Treasury 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ % 2004/08 opening at its tender price of 95 $\frac{3}{4}$  (20% paid). Turnover was not large in either this new stock or the market as a whole, but during the morning sellers tended to get the upper hand and the whole market eased away to slightly lower levels. Treasury 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ % at one time reached a level of 19 $\frac{5}{8}$ . At these levels however buyers returned and the market gradually improved, so that by the close although shorts were slightly lower on the day, longs were showing about  $\frac{1}{8}$  gain on balance. The fall in U.S. banks' prime rates to 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  was a helpful factor. During the afternoon Treasury 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ % 2004/08 outperformed the rest of the market to close at 20 $\frac{1}{16}$ .

The Industrial market opened slightly higher on the agreed pay settlement at British Leyland and at British Rail. Prices tended to improve initially but lack of follow through in extremely quiet trading caused most sections to close marginally easier on balance. Banking and Insurance shares were easier after the recent firmness, while Kaffir issues eased slightly on the gold fix price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 440.6 (down 2.0)

<u>BANK</u>	Sales	£	45,880,000
	Purchases	£	19,282,000
	Nett Sales on balance	£	26,598,000