

Tuesday, 29th July, 1980.

The Gilt Edged market opened slightly easier today and quickly ran into a certain amount of selling. As a result of this prices were showing falls of up to about $\frac{1}{2}$ by mid-morning. The market then continued to ease and by lunchtime shorts were showing falls of up to $\frac{1}{2}$ and longs of up to 1 point. In the afternoon the market was steadier, but little improvement was evident, and prices closed the day at the lunchtime levels.

A £75 million placing of Kingdom of Denmark 13% 2005 at a price of 98 was announced, with 20% payable on acceptance.

The Industrial market opened marginally better, with sentiment helped by Wall Street's improvement overnight. Trading conditions were extremely quiet and prices moved narrowly, maintaining the slightly higher levels. Leading Electrical issues encountered some investment demand with Racal and Thorn as the main features. Building and Engineering shares were in general quietly firm although Vickers were easier following confirmation last night that the Rolls-Royce merger will proceed. Wilkinson Match returned from suspension after the announcement of an agreed bid from a large American shareholder. National Westminster Bank interim figures were much in line with revised market expectations and all Clearing banks were little changed on the day. Kaffirs improved as the gold price recovered partially from yesterday's fall.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 488.9 (up 3.0)

BANK

Sales

Purchases

Nett Purchases on balance

NIL

£ 18,593,000

£ 18,593,000