

Thursday, 20th November, 1980.

The Gilt Edged market was quietly firm at the opening and prices, where changed, were $\frac{1}{16}$ higher in the short-dated bonds and unchanged from the previous night's close in the medium and long-dated issues. Business was on a very small scale throughout the day and all interest was concentrated on the tender for the new tranche of £1,000 million Treasury 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ % Stock 2003/07 A. The market improved slightly during the morning and by lunchtime rises of $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ were widespread. At 3.00 p.m. an announcement was made that all tenders for the new issue to the public had been allotted in full at the minimum price of 92.50% but that the stock will not operate as a "tap stock" when dealings start tomorrow morning. Following this announcement, the market turned slightly easier towards the close and ended the day looking barely steady, about $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ below the best levels on the appearance of some sellers who may possibly have received a rather larger allotment of the new issue than they had anticipated.

The Industrial market opened slightly cautiously after the recent strong advance. Prices tended to drift easier on profit-taking at the end of the account and, with potential buyers awaiting further developments on wage claims, most sections closed at or around the worst levels. Insurance and Banking shares were dull sections, while Building and Property issues closed with small nett gains. Shell Transport were unchanged on the figures, while Kaffir shares were again in demand on the gold fix price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 504.7 (down 5.8)

BANK

Sales		NIL
Purchases	£	3,215,000
Nett Purchases on balance	£	3,215,000