

Friday, 20th July, 1979.

The Gilt Edged Market was quietly firm at the opening and prices were  $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{8}$  higher than the previous night's closing levels. This improvement reflected some quite substantial buying which had been seen after hours on Thursday afternoon, and further buyers appeared this morning, so that by midday rises of as much as  $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{5}{8}$  of a point were seen at the long end of the market which was looking particularly firm and, although shorts made some improvement, prices only increased by  $\frac{1}{16} - \frac{1}{8}$ . Little change was seen at the long end during the afternoon but the short-dated bonds lost most of their early gains and the whole market closed the week looking reasonably firm, at or just below the best levels.

At 3.30 p.m. the Bank of England announced an issue by tender of £1,500 million  $11\frac{3}{4}\%$  Treasury Stock 2003-2007, in partly-paid form, at a minimum tender price of  $96\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

The Industrial Market opened steady with little or no trend evident. Prices, however, fluctuated marginally during the day in extremely subdued trading and, with little interest, all sections closed at or around the overnight levels. Lloyds Bank were slightly higher on balance after their figures, while G.U.S. closed at the better levels on the overnight comment on yesterday's figures. Kaffir shares again met profit-taking in the easier gold fix price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 471.5 (down 0.4)

<u>C.N.D.</u>	Sales		NIL
	Purchases	£	3,768,000
	Nett Purchases on balance	£	3,768,000
<u>Bank</u>	Sales	£	770,000
	Purchases	£	1,791,000
	Nett Purchases on balance	£	1,021,000