

Tuesday, 21st August, 1979.

The Gilt Edged market was looking firm at the opening in all sections and prices improved by $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ throughout the list. This improvement was entirely due to the better than expected trade figures which had been announced on the previous afternoon and favourable press comment in this morning's newspapers. Business, however, remained on a small scale throughout the day and there was little, if any, follow-through to the initial rises. In fact, by lunchtime the market was more or less unchanged or slightly below the higher levels. Little change was seen during the afternoon and the whole market closed looking reasonably steady, showing rises of $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ but just below the best levels.

The Industrial market opened firm, continuing yesterday's after hours trend, following the announcement of the July trade figures. Institutional interest was minimal, and prices soon drifted lower on lack of interest. Rothschild Investment Trust improved on the announcement of a partial bid from Reliance Group of America. Redlands were dull on the Chairman's statement, which indicated a disappointing start to the current year. Ocean Transport and Trading were in demand following better than expected interim results. Hong Kong shares continued easier as the Hang Seng Index fell again on higher interest rate fears. Wedgwood were dull on the announcement of poor first quarter figures. Kaffirs were quietly firm as the gold price rose above \$300.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 464.9 (down 2.5)

<u>Bank</u>	Sales	£	13,013,000
	Purchases	£	9,657,000
	Nett Sales on balance	£	3,356,000