

Thursday, 22nd November, 1979.

The Gilt Edged market opened the period showing losses of up to $\frac{1}{2}$ in the long-dated issues and $\frac{1}{4}$ in the shorts. This trend was established in after hours dealings on the previous day and reflected continuing uncertainty over the Middle East situation, British Leyland and the possibility of a strike by the coal miners. Following the initial fall, when a small amount of high coupon stock was seen, principally of the new Treasury 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ % 'A' 2000/03, a steadier tone prevailed and by mid-morning much of the losses had been regained, but were subsequently lost with more small offerings appearing. During the early afternoon prices rose to the overnight closing levels, ahead of the Treasury economic forecast, which when published showed little change in the P.S.B.R. for 1980/81 as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product caused prices to drift easier momentarily in quiet conditions before hardening, to close the period at the previous night's levels.

The Industrial market opened slightly lower, awaiting a large number of company results due today. Prices tended to drift easier throughout the day with most sections closing at or around the worst levels. Electrical and Property shares were lower on balance, while Oil issues continued to provide a firm sector, extending the recent trend. I.C.I. were marginally lower on the third quarter figures, while Beecham Group and Dunhill were sharply easier following their respective results. Kaffir shares drifted on the gold fix price, while Courtaulds failed to maintain the higher levels on the statement.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 410.8 (down 2.2)

Bank

Sales	£ 5,106,000
Purchases	£ 2,496,000
Nett Sales on balance	£ 2,610,000