Monday, 26th November, 1979.

Following the announcement of the issue of £1,000 million Treasury 14% 1998/2001 at the close of business on Friday, prices had eased quite sharply in after hours dealing. The news over the week-end, both domestic and international, had done nothing to alter investors' minds, so that opening prices in the Gilt Edged market this morning were showing losses of up to ½ in short-dated stocks and 1'4 in longs from Friday's official close. At these levels, although there was a limited amount of selling, there were sufficient buyers to keep the market steady, and in fact during the morning prices improved somewhat. Turnover remained low throughout the day and the market remained steady until just before the close, when a little further selling brought it back to the lower levels established in early dealings. Variable stocks were the only firm feature with rises of about ½ on the day.

The Industrial market opened slightly easier following the week-end press comment on the possible high pay settlements. Prices continued to drift lower throughout the day and, with a complete lack of any buying interest, all sections tended to close at the worst levels. Property shares were a dull sector on the implications of higher interest rates, while Kaffir issues remained steady on the gold fix price. Oil Exploration and Lasmo were sharply lower following the announcement that the third party had retired from the talks.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.)

405.8 (down 2.8)

Bank

Sales Purchases Nett Sales on balance £ 11,115,000 NIL £ 11,115,000