

Friday, 14th December, 1979.

The Gilt Edged market was looking quietly firm at the opening in all sections and prices had improved by about  $\frac{1}{8}$  in the shorts and  $\frac{1}{4}$  in the long-dated issues. Business was not on a large scale but the firmer tendency continued throughout the morning and by lunchtime prices had improved further so that rises of  $\frac{3}{8}$  -  $\frac{1}{2}$  a point were widespread in all sections. The market remained quietly firm and active during the afternoon in advance of the announcement of the trade figures and just before the close the Government long-dated tap stock, Treasury 14% 1998/2001 (60% paid) became operative at a price of  $60\frac{1}{8}\%$ . The whole market closed the week looking firm, at or around the best levels.

The Industrial market opened slightly higher on the Government's intention to reduce public expenditure next year. Prices continued to improve throughout the day on small buying interest, in extremely quiet trading, with most sections closing at the best levels ahead of the November trade figures. Property, Banking and Building shares were particularly firm sections, while Oil and Electrical issues closed marginally below the best levels. Kaffir shares lacked a decided trend, while A. Guinness were sharply higher on the results and capitalisation issue.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 427.9 (up 6.4)

<u>BANK</u>	Sales	£	84,520,000
	Purchases	£	875,000
	Nett Sales on balance	£	83,645,000