

Friday, 29th February, 1980.

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The Gilt Edged market was slightly easier at the opening and prices, where changed, were $\frac{1}{16}$ - $\frac{1}{8}$ down on balance in all sections. Business was once again on a very small scale but sellers predominated and, although the falls were temporarily checked when an announcement was made with regard to the postponement of the repayment of special deposits by the clearing banks, buyers were conspicuous by their absence and the short-dated bonds were looking particularly soft and showed falls of $\frac{3}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ a point by lunchtime. Easiness in this section had spread down the list and, although far less active, the long-dated issues were $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ lower. The market remained very quiet during the afternoon and sentiment was not helped by a further rise in the prime rates of the major New York banks to $16\frac{3}{4}\%$. The market ended the week looking barely steady, at or around the lowest levels.

The Industrial market opened slightly cautiously after the recent firm tone. Prices, however, after drifting initially, rallied on the special deposits announcement and most sections tended to close only marginally easier on balance. Property shares were an isolated firm sector, while Insurance and Banking issues failed to maintain the better levels. Kaffir shares were slightly easier in subdued conditions on the gold fix price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 468.1 (down 1.0)

<u>C.N.D.</u>	Sales	NIL
	Purchases	£ 629,000
	Nett Purchases on balance	£ 629,000
<u>BANK</u>	Sales	£ 3,507,000
	Purchases	£ 6,835,000
	Nett Purchases on balance	£ 3,328,000