

Wednesday, 14th January, 1981.

The Gilt Edged market was looking quietly firm at the opening and prices were about $\frac{1}{8}$ higher in all sections. For no very specific reason, buyers returned to the market today and, with the jobbers short of stock, prices improved during the morning by a further $\frac{1}{8} - \frac{3}{16}$ and most of the interest was concentrated in the longer dated shorts in the area 1984/85 and the long-dated high coupon issues in the area 2000/2012. The market turned slightly easier during the afternoon, on the appearance of some profit-takers, but closed the day looking reasonably firm, below the best levels but about $\frac{1}{16} - \frac{1}{8}$ above the opening prices.

The Industrial market opened steady. Prices fluctuated during the day before closing slightly lower on balance. Electricals were generally easier in quite active trading. Racal Electronics were flat ahead of figures to be announced at the end of the month. I.C.L. were weak on suggestion that they might need short-term financial aid from the Government. The Building sector was quietly firm on selective investment interest following some encouraging results recently. Engineers were steady after yesterday's fall on reports that a large company may be in financial difficulties. Oils were dull on widespread selling caused by a bearish broker's circular. Kaffirs were lower in line with the bullion price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 446.2 (dowr. 1.2)

<u>C.N.D.</u>	Sales	£	4,668,000
	Purchases	£	1,777,000
	Nett Sales on balance	£	2,891,000

<u>BANK</u>	Sales	£	93,275,000
	Purchases		NIL
	Nett Sales on balance	£	93,275,000