

Friday, 6th February, 1981.

The Gilt Edged market was slightly easier at the opening in all sections and prices, where changed, were $\frac{1}{16}$ - $\frac{1}{8}$ lower. Business was on a very small scale throughout the day but the easier tendency continued during the morning until a few cheap buyers appeared around midday, when most of the early losses were regained. The market remained very inactive during the early part of the afternoon but started to ease slightly just before the close and ended the day looking barely steady, showing falls of $\frac{1}{16}$ - $\frac{3}{16}$ in all sections.

At 3.30 p.m. the Bank of England announced the issue by tender of £1,000 million 12% Treasury Stock 1986 at a minimum price of 96%.

The Industrial market opened slightly easier on the final day of the account, still reflecting disappointment over the unchanged Minimum Lending Rate. However, selective investment support helped prices to improve throughout the day and close around the best levels. Dealers were speculating that interest rates would be cut during the new account. Property and Building shares were in demand on the hopes for lower money rates, which would be of significant benefit to both sectors. Oils were generally dull after bearish press comment. Brewery issues encountered renewed interest although A. Guinness were lower following the cautious Chairman's statement. Electricals saw considerable buying with G.E.C. and Plessey particularly firm features. Muirhead were sharply higher on further suggestion of a takeover. Kaffirs were better in line with the gold price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 476.9 (up 4.9)

C.N.D.

Sales and Purchases

NIL

BANK