Tuesday, 10th February, 1981.

The Gilt Edged market opened quiet and relatively steady. However during the morning a few sellers came in and prices drifted away gently. By lunchtime shorts, which had recovered from the lowest levels, were showing losses of about 1/16 while longs were 1/4 - 3/8 down. Following the announcement of the banking figures at 2.30 p.m. the market saw a certain amount of two-way trade at prices just below the lunchtime levels, but with the appearance of a few buyers just before the close, prices improved to show losses of 1/8 on the day.

The Industrial market opened steady. Investment interest in most sectors helped prices to improve in early trading. However, the slightly disappointing Money Supply figures caused the market to ease although still remaining better on balance. The Engineering sector was in demand on the prospects for recovery to follow the current difficulties. Metal Box and Vickers were particularly firm, the latter being helped by favourable press comment. Clearing Banks were sharply higher on hopes that a "windfall profits" tax will not be imposed in the Budget. Among guiet Merchant Banks, Guinness Peat were flat following interim results well below analysts forecasts. In leading "blue-chip" companies, Dunlop were well supported on renewed speculation of a takeover by Far Eastern shareholders. Kaffirs were unchanged as the gold price fluctuated narrowly.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 485.6 (up 4.7)

C.N.D.

Sales and Purchases and

NIL

BANK