Thursday, 30th July 1981

The Gilt Edged market remained under the influence of U.S. rates again today and opened up to 1/4 easier in shorts and 3/8 easier in longs. Trading was very slow to start after the holiday, and what dealing there was was two-way at the lower levels. However, buyers gradually had the better of it, and prices closed 1/6 - 1/8 above the lowest levels. The National Savings announcement contributed to this marginally improved tone.

The industrial market opened steady in extremely quiet trading. Prices tended to improve initially on small investment interest but most sections failed to maintain the better levels towards the close. Ranking shares were easier on further reflection on the disappointing results from Nat. West. and ahead of the Midland Bank figures on Friday, while Reed Int. continued to improve on overnight press comment. I.C.I. moved higher ahead of the results, and following publication of the figures attracted further interest before easing towards the close. Kaffir shares were idle and lacked a decided trend throughout the day.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 527.3 (up 2.0)

C.N.D.

Sales

£ 428,000

Sales and Purchases

NIL