

Friday, 7th August, 1981.

The Gilt Edged market remained extremely quiet throughout the day, but the undertone remained relatively firm in spite of an easier sterling/dollar rate. The whole market opened steady, and short-dated stocks thereafter fluctuated in a narrow band all day to close showing little change, the only exception being low-coupon stocks which improved. Longs showed little change during the morning but inclined slightly better during the afternoon to close generally $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ higher.

The Industrial market opened steady on the last day of the current account. Most sectors moved within narrow margins as trading conditions remained subdued and generally featureless. Prices closed slightly higher on balance in anticipation of selective buying for the next account. Electricals were mainly easier although Rank Organisation improved following the sale of an important overseas property. Thorn-EMI continued to attract support after the recent encouraging chairman's statement. Clearing Banks and Composite Insurance companies were dull. Both Commercial Union and General Accident weakened ahead of results on Tuesday. Among unchanged 'blue-chip' stocks, BOC were firm prior to next week's figures. Engineers were better and Vickers maintained their recent strength on further consideration of a large overseas contract. Kaffirs were in demand as the gold price hardened.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 534.8 (up 0.4)

<u>C.N.D.</u>	Sales	£	373,000
	Purchases		NIL
	Nett Sales on balance	£	373,000
<u>BANK</u>	Sales	£	13,937,000
	Purchases		NIL
	Nett Sales on balance	£	13,937,000