

Friday, 30th October 1981

With U.S. rates giving some encouragement, the Gilt-Edged market opened a little firmer today with rises of up to $\frac{1}{2}$, and a small demand for stock in the shorter end. However, activity soon died away and prices generally came back, although still showing rises on the day. With turnover continuing low in the afternoon, the market nonetheless improved again slightly and closed the day quietly firm showing rises of $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ in shorts and $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ in longs.

The Industrial market opened steady at the end of the first week for the current account. Trading conditions remained subdued during the day with most sectors fluctuating narrowly. The uncertainty of the BL situation was a restraining influence and prices were generally unchanged at the close of business. Leading 'blue-chip' companies were quietly firm with ICI moving higher on further consideration of yesterday's encouraging third-quarter profits. Glaxo extended recent gains following a favourable brokers circular. Oils were initially strong on the overnight news of a unified pricing agreement by OPEC. However, share prices later succumbed to profit-taking and closed lower on balance. Electricals were easier on fears that the Government's defence programme may be delayed but jobbers encountered support at the cheaper levels. Cable and Wireless applications closed with the issue over-subscribed. The Building and Property sectors were better as the fears of increased interest rates receded. Kaffirs improved in line with the bullion price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 468.5 (up 0.8)

C.N.D.

Sales and Purchases NIL

BANK

Sales	£42,477,000
Purchases	£ 6,000,000
Nett Sales on balance	£36,477,000