

Friday, 20th November, 1981.

The Gilt-Edged market has had a quiet day. Prices saw losses of up to $\frac{1}{4}$ in early dealings, improved again, and thereafter fluctuated marginally during the day to close about $\frac{1}{8}$ down on balance in all sections. The Trade Figures at 3.30 were generally thought to be reasonably encouraging. The new short tap stock Exchequer 14% 1986 was dealt in for the first time, and fluctuated between a price of 40 and $40\frac{1}{8}$ (40% paid) before closing at $40\frac{1}{2}$.

At 3.30 the issue to the Bank of England of three further tranches was announced - £250 million of each of Treasury 13% 1990, Treasury 12% 1995 and Treasury $13\frac{1}{2}$ % 2004/08.

The Industrial market opened steady. Most sectors remained quietly firm on the last day of the current account. Business conditions were subdued although several special situations appeared. Electricals and Engineers were mainly higher on hopes of an improving outlook. T. W. Ward rose sharply initially because of a 'dawn raid' which was later followed by a full scale takeover approach from R.T.Z. valuing Wards at £114 million. If successful, R.T.Z. will bid for cement company Turner Holdings where T. W. Ward hold 40% and R.T.Z. $9\frac{1}{2}$ % of the shares. British Aerospace hardened on the overnight news of a large U.S. Navy aircraft contract. Oil issues made renewed progress on further consideration of yesterday's excellent third-quarter profits from Shell. Stores were unchanged but Boots weakened following adverse press comment concerning the disappearing interim results. Clearing Banks were steady, while Royal Bank of Scotland continued to improve on speculation that the bid from Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank will be cleared by the Monopolies Commission. Kaffirs fluctuated narrowly in line with the bullion price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 512.6 (up 0.9)

<u>C.N.D.</u>	Sales		NIL
	Purchases	£	1,324,000
	Nett Purchases on balance	£	1,324,000
<u>BANK</u>	Sales	£	8,037,000
	Purchases	£	8,503,000
	Nett Purchases on balance	£	466,000