

Friday, 8th January 1982

The Gilt-Edged market has had a reasonably good day. Although the market was never other than thin, buyers were in the ascendant, and the market was edging gently better for much of the day. After opening $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ better, the market then rather ran out of steam but improved again during the morning. With U.S. bonds coming in better during the afternoon prices continued firm, and shorts closed $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$ up, with longs showing rises of up to $\frac{1}{2}$.

The Industrial market opened better on the last day of the current account. Selective investment interest helped most sectors to improve in early trading but sellers appeared towards the close, worried about the outcome of the Coal-miners pay dispute. Stores were well supported following reports of increased turnover during the January sales. British Home Stores, Curry's and GUS were particularly strong features. Electricals succumbed to profit taking as several large lines of stock appeared in the market. Leading 'blue-chip' companies encountered persistent institutional demand with Glaxo and Beechams moving sharply higher. Among Financials, Clearing Banks remained unchanged although Bank of Scotland met speculative buying on renewed takeover suggestion. After yesterday's bearish news from Smith St. Aubyn, Discount Houses were mostly steady at the lower levels. Motor shares improved following the Ford workers pay settlement. Kaffirs were marginally better in line with the bullion price.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 530.4 (up 0.9)

C.N.D.

Sales	NIL
Purchases	£ 5,789,000
Nett Purchases on balance	£ 5,789,000

BANK

Sales	£86,295,000
Purchases	£67,073,000
Nett Sales on balance	£19,222,000