

Wednesday, 13th January 1982

In spite of the railway strike and continuing press comment on the possibility of higher U.S. rates, the Gilt-Edged market has been quietly firm all day. After opening up to $\frac{1}{4}$ better, prices edged forward in the face of a little buying during the morning, and by lunchtime shorts were generally about $\frac{1}{4}$ better, while low-coupon shorts and longs were showing rises of up to $\frac{1}{2}$. With very little activity during the afternoon the market still remained relatively firm, and closed at around the lunchtime levels.

The Industrial market opened steady despite the problems on the Labour front. Prices tended to improve marginally on selective buying interest throughout the day with most sectors showing small gains on balance. Insurance shares provided a firm feature, while P & O were in demand on hopes of a Far Eastern bid. Racal, initially strong, failed to maintain the best levels on the figures while Royal Bank of Scotland fluctuated awaiting the official monopolies report. Kaffir issues lacked a decided trend during the day while second line brewery shares moved higher on possible further rationalisation in the industry.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 527.1 (up 2.5)

C.N.D.

Sales	NIL
Purchases	£ 2,161,000
Nett Purchases on balance	£ 2,161,000

BANK

Sales	£30,669,000
Purchases	NIL
Nett Sales on balance	£30,669,000