

Friday, 26th February, 1982.

The Gilt-Edged market has been easier today. Easier U.S. bonds overnight, a weaker sterling rate against the dollar, falling oil prices, and a generally overbought market all contributed to bring the market lower. Prices had been up to $\frac{3}{8}$ easier after hours yesterday, and opened just below overnight levels this morning. A little selling still appeared however and prices once again drifted easier for much of the day. Although closing just above the worst in all sections, following the improved bill tender, the market was still up to $\frac{3}{8}$ lower in shorts, while longs closed $\frac{3}{4}$ - 1 point down.

The Industrial market opened steady on the final day of the account. Prices, however, failed to maintain the initial levels with all sections reacting in later trading to close at the worst levels. Oil issues were dull on the latest possible reduction in crude prices, while Electrical shares again met profit-taking. Gill & Duffus were sharply easier on the forecast reduction in profits, with Kaffirs moving in line with the gold fix price. Plessey and I.C.I. both drifted on overnight comment on yesterday's figures, while Amersham moved higher, after the initial dealings, to 194p.

Financial Times Index (3.00 p.m.) 545.4 (down 6.4)

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| <u>C.N.D.</u> | Sales | | NIL |
| | Purchases | £ | 888,000 |
| | Nett Purchases on balance | £ | 888,000 |

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| <u>BANK</u> | Sales and Purchases | NIL |
|-------------|---------------------|-----|