RESEARCH LIBRARY U.S. FINANCIAL DATA.

Federal Reserve Bank

of St. Louis

Week ending February 19, 1969

AUG 2 7 1998

The monetary base averaged \$76.5 billion in the four weeks ending February 19, up \$.8 billion or at a 6.1 per cent annual rate from the four weeks ending December 18 (page 2). This rate of increase is somewhat slower than the 6.5 per cent rate for the past twelve months and the 6.3 per cent trend rate of the past two years. In contrast, the base increased at a 3.6 per cent trend rate from 1957 to 1968. The monetary base, the total credit extended by the Federal Reserve and Treasury to the economy and a measure of monetary actions, indicates no appreciable change in the past two months from the previous two years. Federal Reserve credit, the largest source component of the base, has increased at a 6.7 per cent rate in the past two months, similar to the 9.0 per cent rate of increase in the past two years (page 2).

Although the base has continued to increase rapidly since early December, money has declined on balance since the four weeks ending December 18 (page 3). This discrepancy can be explained for the most part by the recent unusual build-up of Treasury deposits in commercial banks, causing private demand deposits and money to be correspondingly less than they otherwise would be. The money stock, adjusted for this change in Government deposits, which is likely to be temporary, has continued to increase since early December at roughly its earlier rapid rate.

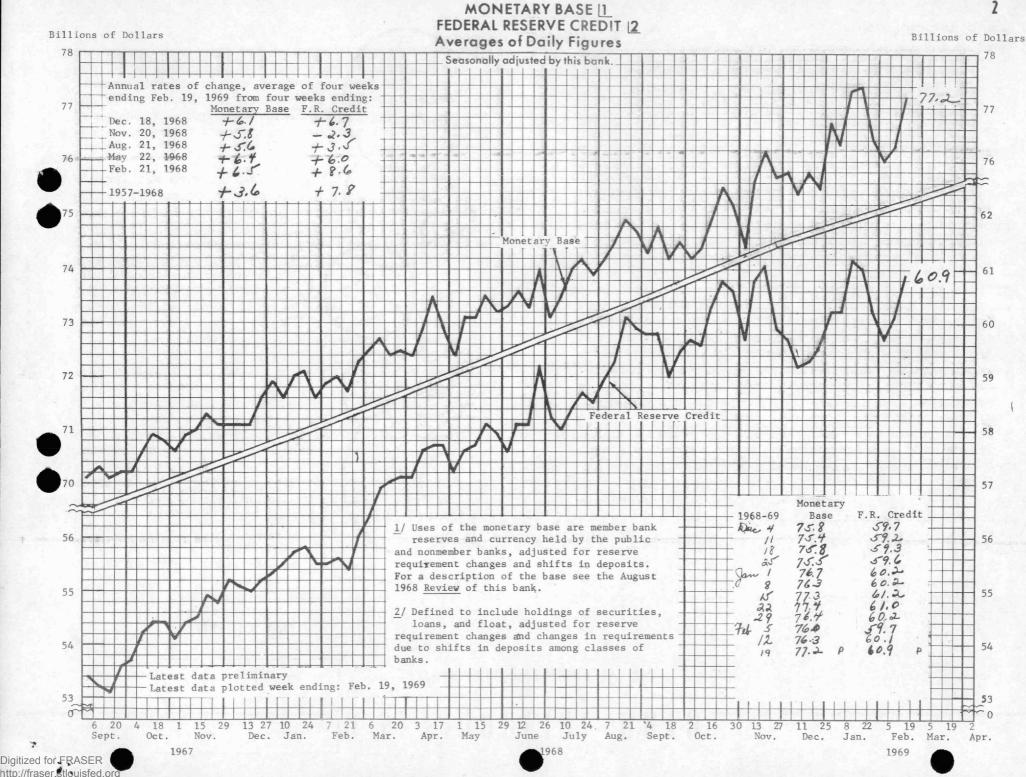
Since last July money has increased at a 3 per cent annual rate, less than half the rate of the previous 18 months. Just as in the last two months, the slower growth over the last seven months has reflected unusual developments which may now be near an end. The monetary base, which usually determines the growth of money over an extended period, has continued to increase very rapidly up to the present time. If the base continues to increase rapidly in coming weeks and Treasury balances at commercial banks are substantially reduced from their present abnormally high levels, the money stock would increase rapidly. Nevertheless, experience indicates that a markedly slower growth of money over a period of seven months may have a measurable moderating effect on total spending.

Time deposits have declined at a 7.7 per cent rate since early December in response to high market interest rates relative to rates banks are permitted to pay on time deposits (page 7). As a result of the disintermediation of time deposits, the growth rates of money plus time deposits and bank credit have decelerated. The money stock plus time deposits has decreased at a 4.3 per cent annual rate in the past two months, compared with a 7.5 per cent increase during the past year (page 4). Total credit at large commercial banks has increased at a 0.5 per cent annual rate since early December, compared with a 10.3 per cent increase in the past year (page 12). The decline of time deposits bears heavily on commercial banks and some bank loan customers, but since funds leaving time deposits are available elsewhere, the disintermediation does not necessarily restrict total credit flows in the economy. Accordingly, the decelerated growth of bank credit and the broad measure of money do not necessarily indicate monetary restraint.

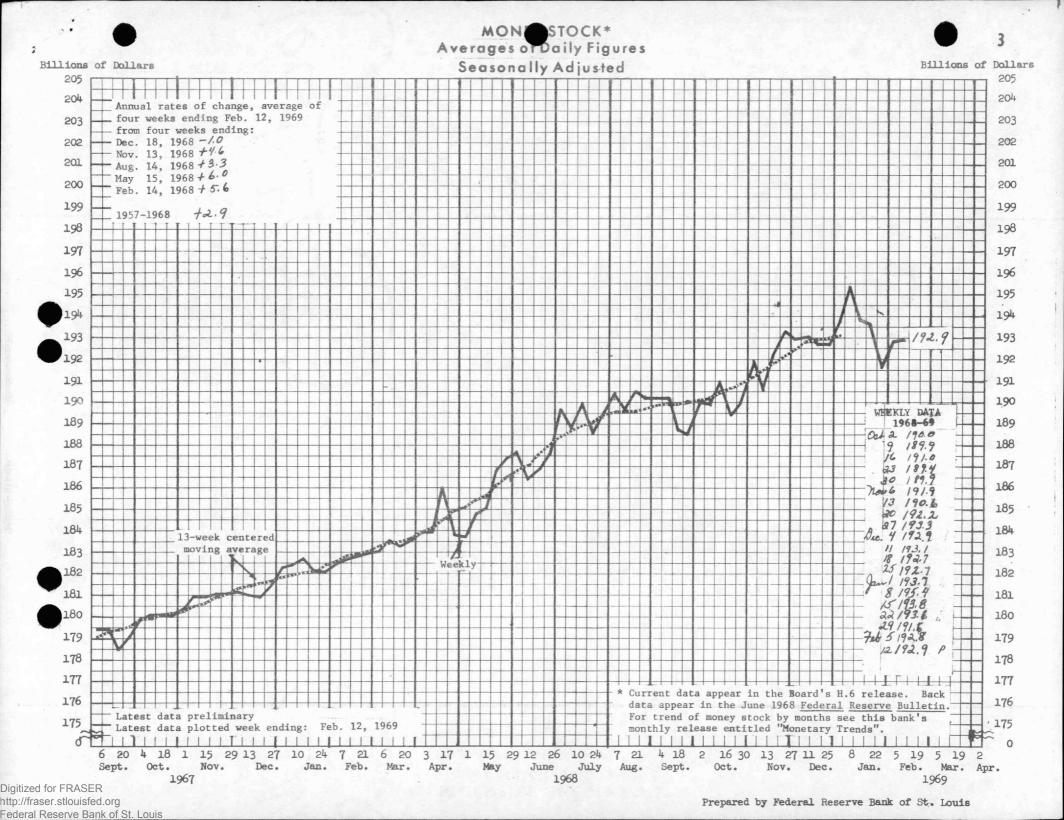
> Rates of change reported in this release are intended to serve as summaries which may be useful in analyzing recent developments.

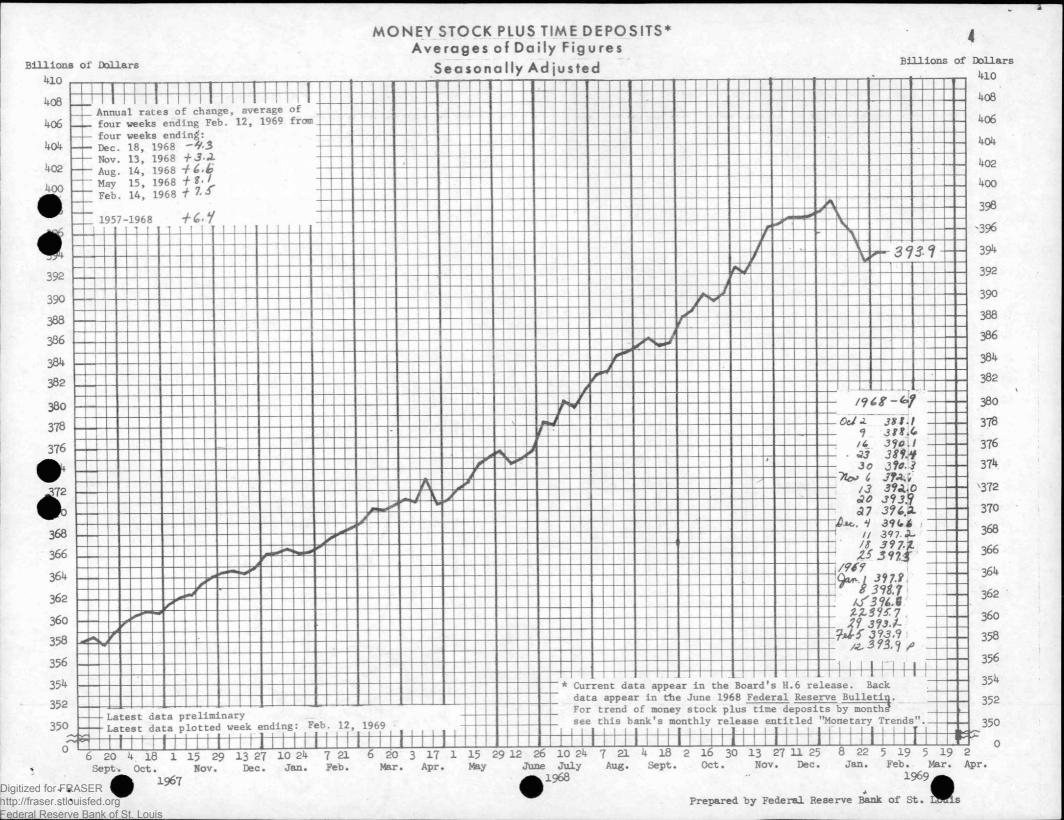
> > Prepared by Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Released: February 21, 1969

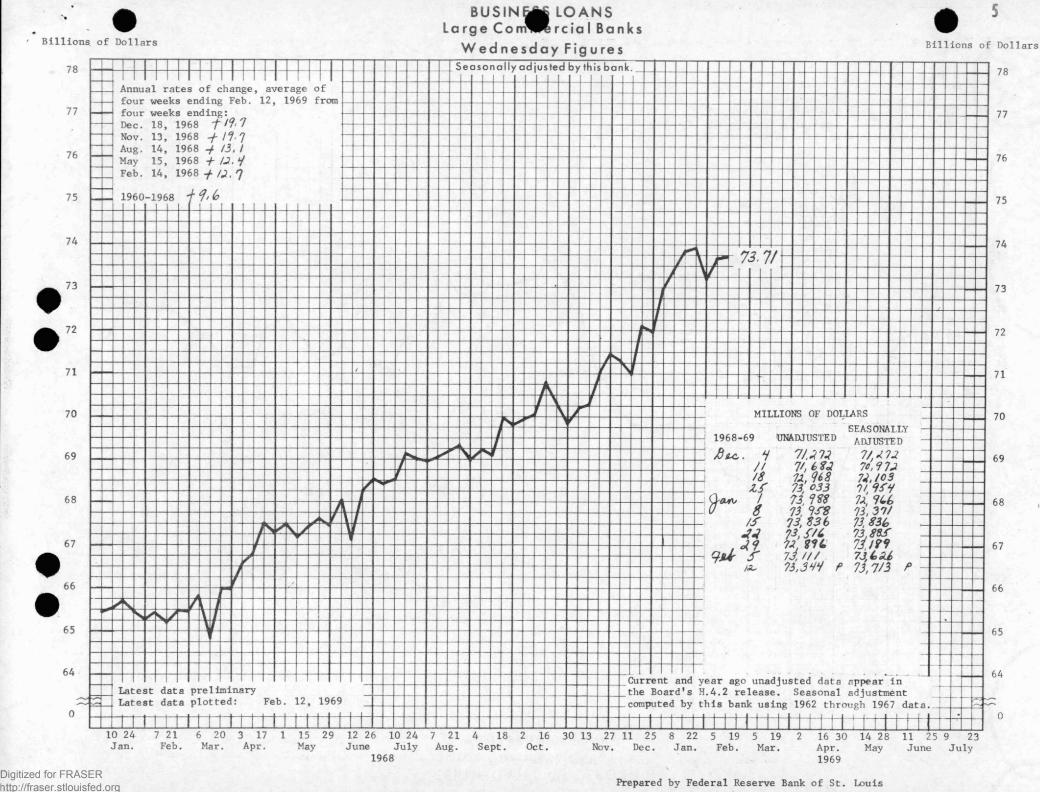
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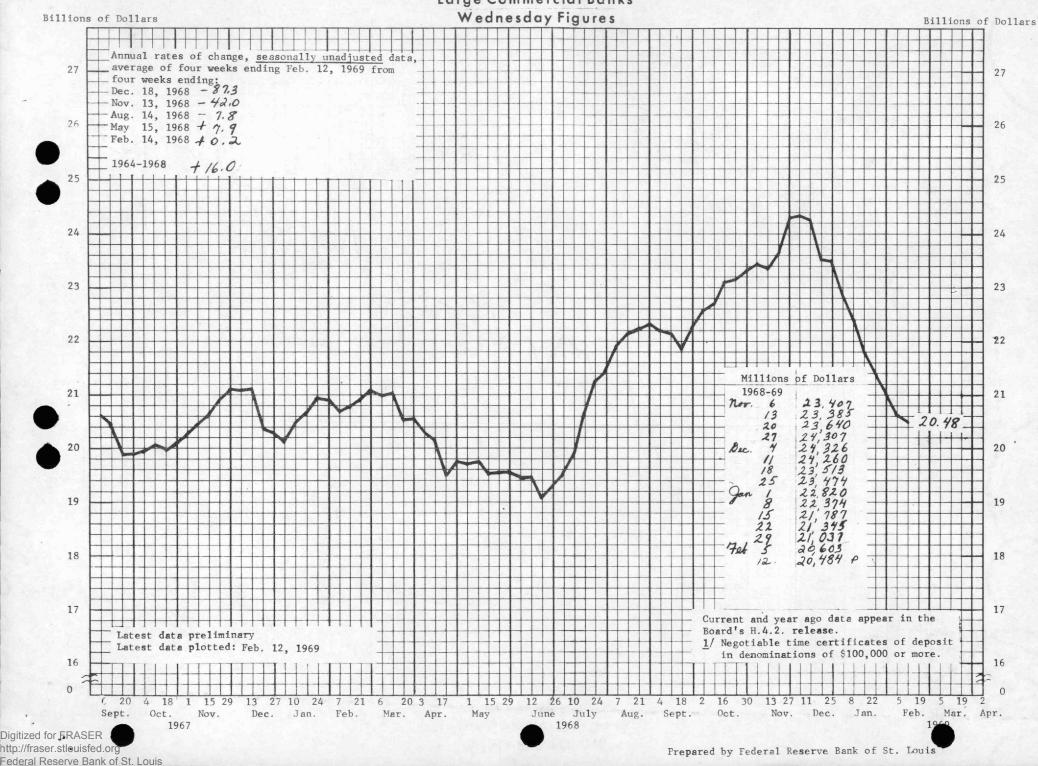


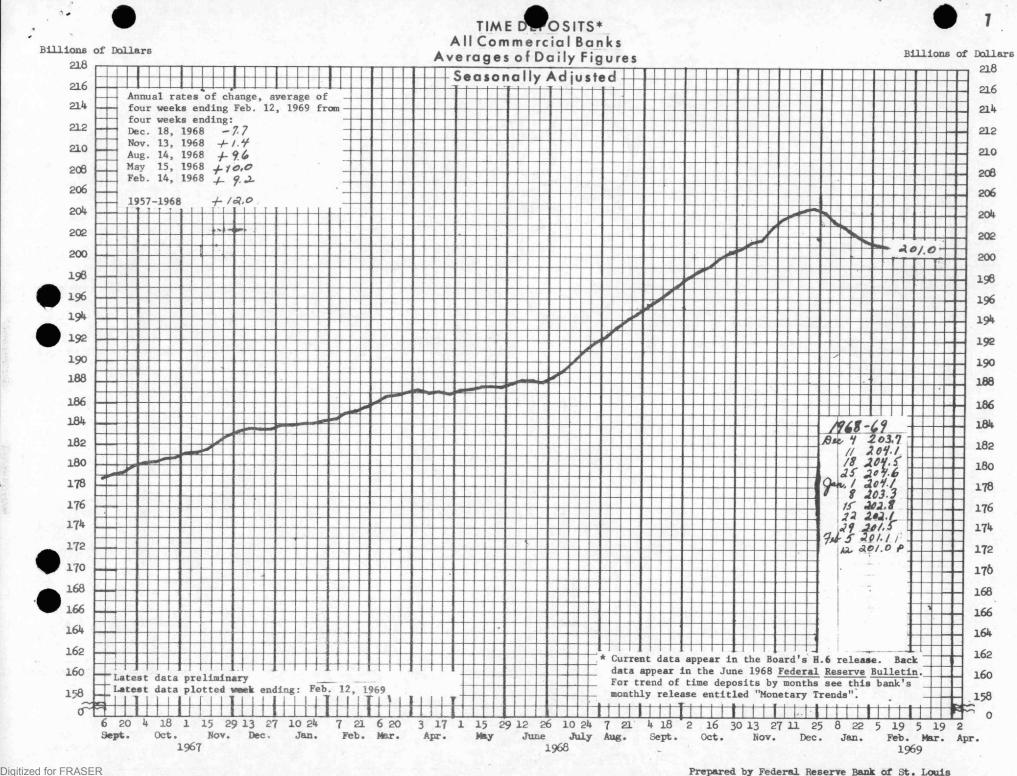




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CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT [] Large Commercial Banks

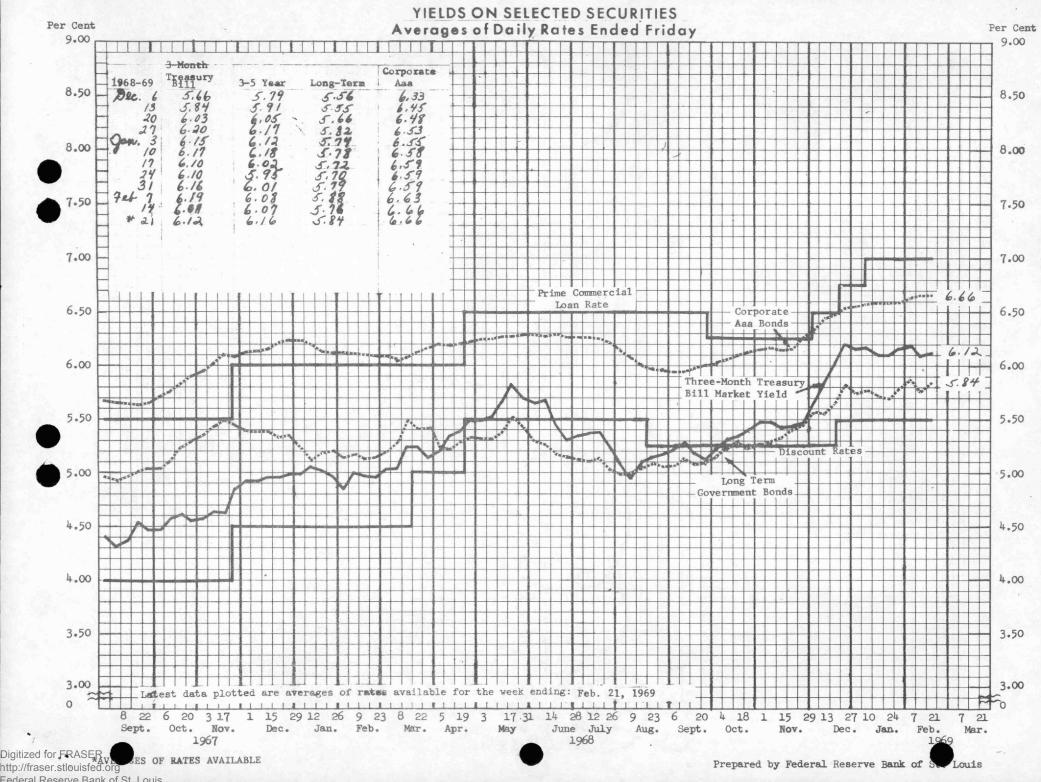




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