Markes interest rates have fallen considerably sifyde the/beginning of 1970, and on Narch 25 many bankspappounced a reduction in the rate charged on prime business loans from $8-1 / 2$ per cent to 8 per cent (pages 10 and 11). The declines probably reflect primarily slower growth in demands for funds. The yield on three-month Treasury bills has fallen most markedly-from 8.02 per cent in early January to 6.13 per cent in the three days ending March 25. At the same time yields on prime four- to six-month commercial paper declined from 9 per cent to 8.04 per cent, and yields on bankers' acceptances went from 8.75 per cent to 7.21 per cent.

Yields on three- to five-year Government securities are also down more than a percentage noint since the beginning of the year--from 8.26 per cent to 7.05 per cent in the three days ending March 25 . Yields on long-term Government bonds have declined slightly less than one percentage point--from 7 per cent to 6.29 per cent, while yields on corporate Aaa bonds, at 7.92 per cent, remain near their early February peak. Although most current rates represent a marked decline from three months ago, they remain high relative to the five years before 1969.

Reintermediation appears.to be taking place as market interest rates decline relative to the
maximum rates banks are permitted to pay. The outstanding volume of large negotiable certificates of deposit has increased substantially for the first time in more than a year (page 8). Large CD's declined from $\$ 23.7$ billion in December 1968 to $\$ 10.5$ billion in January 1970. Since the beginning of February the outstanding volume has risen $\$ 1$ billion. Other time and savings deposits have also increased during this period, so that the total shows an increase of $\$ 2.9$ billion (page 6).

Reintermediation does not contribute to expansion of the money supply. On the contrary, an increase in time deposits absorbs reserves so that a given amount of reserves can support fewer demand deposits. Member bank reserves have declined in the past three months (page 3); however, other factors--changes in Government deposits, shifts in deposits among banks with different reserve requirements, and excess reserves--also affect the amount of demand deposits and consequently the money stock.

The money stock has risen at a 2.4 per cent annual rate in the last three months and at a 0.9 per cent rate in the last nine months (page 5). The demand deposit component of money has increased at a 1.8 per cent rate in the last three months and declined at a 0.3 per cent rate in the last nine (page 4 ).

MONETARY BASE 11


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\text { vised due to the change in Regulation } D \text { effec- }
$$

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\text { tive July 31, } 1969 \text { requiring member banks to }
$$

include all "bills payable checks" and so-called
"London checks" as deposits subject to reserve
requirements.

Data exclude increase in required reserves of about $\$ 400$ million due to changes in Regulations M and D effective Oct. 16, 1969.

Current data including required reserves
due to changes in Regulations $M$ and $D$ effective October 16, 1969 appear in the Board's H. 9 release.
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Seasonally Adjusted
Billions of Dollars




MONEY STOCK PLUS TIME DEPOSITS
Averages of Daily Figures
7

Seasonally Adjusted


CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT 11
Large Commercial Banks



*AVERAGES OF RATES AVAILABLE; FEDERAL FUNDS LAST FIVE DAYS AVAILABLE

Alf Member Banks in the Nation


