The nation's money stock has risen at a 1.6 per cent annual rate since the four weeks ending December 10, following about no change from early June to early December (nage 5). The demand deposit component of money has risen at a 0.7 per cent rate since early December, compared with a slight decline in the previous six months (nage 4). Because of unusual fluctuatations in these magnitudes from mid--December through January, data for

$\square$interval appear unsuitable for comparison.

Most short-term market interest rates have fallen since early January, following a general upward trend in the previous year and a half (pages 10 and 11). In the first three days of this week many rates moved up a little from lows reached last week. Yields on prime four- to six-month commercial naper averaged 8.04 per cent in the three days ending April 1, compared with a 9.08 per cent peak in early January. Some short-term rates have declined even more. The three-month Treasury bill rate averaged 6.35 per cent in the three days ending April 1, compared with 8.02 per cent in early January, and yields on bankers' acceptances averaged 7.21 per cent this week through Wednesday, compared with 3.75 per cent three months ago. Yields on highest-grade seasoned
corporate bonds have remained on a high plateau since early January and averaged 7.87 per cent in the three days ending April 1. Most interest rates remain significantly higher than in early 1969.

The recent decline in the prime rate from $81 / 2$ per cent to 8 per cent followed or was part of the decline in market rates, responding to some reduction in the demand for loan funds. Business loans at large commercial banks have declined slightly in the past three months, compared with a 6 per cent annual rate of increase in the previous three months (page 7).

The recent fall in short-term market interest rates, together with relaxation of Regulation $Q$, has increased the ability of banks to attract time deposits. The volume of large negotiable certificates of deposit has increased $\$ 1.4$ billion since early February, following more than a year of steady decline (page 8). Total time deposits have risen $\$ 3.7$ billion in the past two months (page 6 ). Rapid growth of commercial paper, one of the results of disintermediation, continued in February, with the outstanding volume reaching $\$ 35.2$ billion. Yields on commercial paner in February were still high relative to rates permitted on CD's of comparable maturity (page 9).


Seasonally adiusted by this bank*

## Averages of Daily Figures

24.5

Series adjusted by the Board of Governors to reflect changes in reserve requirements.

For comparability, back data have been revised due to the change in Regulation $D$ effective July 31 , 1969 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.





Latest data plotted: March 1970
3.5
0

2/ Prime commercial paper, 4- to 6-months maturity. Averages of dealers' daily offering rates.
$\approx=\square 1|+| 1$.
$1 \mid 1 /$
1967
1968
1969
1970

YIELDS ON SELECTED SECURITIES
Averages of Daily Rates Ended Friday
Per Cent




