u.s. finamcial dapa

## Week ending: Seplember 30, 1970

The money stock has risen at a 5.7 per cent annual rate since the four weeks ending March 25, a period of six months. From the first quarter to the three months ending September 23 the rate of increase was about 5 per cent. By comparison, this magnitude changed little on balance over the eight months ending with February. From 1957 to 1965 money grew at a 2.2 per cent trend rate, but a somewhat faster rate may now be appropriate. Even though monetary expansion is at a rate which may stimulate a faster rise in
:al spending than before 1965, downward pressure may be placed on the current rapid trend of prices. Velocity of money, which has risen at an average 3.2 per cent per year rate since 1957, may not rise so rapidly now that liquidity has been substantially reduced, and because the upward trend of interest rates may not continue.

Federal Reserve credit has increased at an 8.7 per cent annual rate over the past six months and member bank reserves at a 10.8 per cent rate. These rates are substantially higher than in the previous eight months, but a substantial portion of the increase has been absorbed by the reintermediation of time deposits.

Effective October 1, reserve requirements were reduced from 6 per cent to 5 per cent on that part of a -mber bank's total time deposits in excess of $\$ 5$ million,
d a 5 per cent reserve requirement was placed on funds obtained by member banks through the issuance of commercial paper by their affiliates. Anticipation of this latter change, together with lower short-term interest rates and relaxation of Regulation $Q$, has induced a substantial
run-off of bank-related commercial paper. The two actions together are expected to reduce required reserves about \$350 million for all member banks.

Short-term interest rates have fallen substantially from their January levels, while longer-term rates have declined more moderately or not at all, resulting in a considerable spread between long- and short-term rates. Yields on 4 - to 6 -month commercial paper averaged 7.13 per cent for the three days ending September 30 , down from 9 per cent in early January. The three-rionth Treasury bill rate has averaged under 6 per cent for the past two weeks, down from about 8 per cent in January.

Yields on highest-grade seasoned corporate bonds averaged 8.05 per cent for the three days ending September 30 , not much changed from the January average of 7.91 per cent. Rates on state and local govemment securities were 5.95 per cent on September 24 , down from 6.50 per cent in early January. Yields on 3- to 5 -year Government securities averaged 7.06 per cent in the first three days of this week, compared with 8.25 per cent in early January.

As a result of declining market interest rates, the current 6 per cent discount rate (the interest rate charged by Federal Reserve banks for reserves borrowed by member banks) is more nearly in touch with market interest rates than in either the second half of 1969 or the first half of 1970.

MONETARY BASE 11



Averages of Daily Figures





(CREDIT PROXY)
Billions of Dollars
Billions of Dollars
Averages of Daily Figures




All Member Banks in the Nation


