Yields on long-term Government bonds 1939 to present

[Percent per annum]

	Yield
1939	2.36
1940	2.21
1941	1.95
1942	2.46
1943	2.47
1944	2.48
1945	2.37
1946	2.19
1947	2.25
1948	2.44
1949	2.31
1950	2.32
1951	2.57
1952	2.68
1953	2.94
1954	2.56
1955	2.84
1956	3.08
1957	3.47
1958	3.43
1959	4.08
1960	4.02
1961	3.90
1962	3.95
1963	4.00
1964	4.15
1965	4.12
1966	4.65
Average for 14-year period (1939–52)	2.36
Average for 14-year period (1953–66)	3.65

Mr. PATMAN. And from 1953 to 1966 I have the interest rates here during the next 14 years. Interest rates were 50 percent higher just on Government rates alone.

Now, a lot of people think that so-called market forces fix interest rates. Well, to some extent that is true, but on our large Government debt, interest rates are fixed by the Federal Reserve. There is no free market in Government bonds.

Now, if our Government bond indebtedness was something like $50 billion, possibly the free market forces would operate, but not when the public debt is as big as it is today. I have asked Mr. Eccles that question when he was Chairman; I asked presidents of the Federal Reserve banks that question; and I asked Mr. Martin that question,