

INSIDE THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE

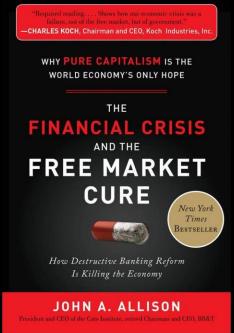
WITH A NEW AFTERWORD

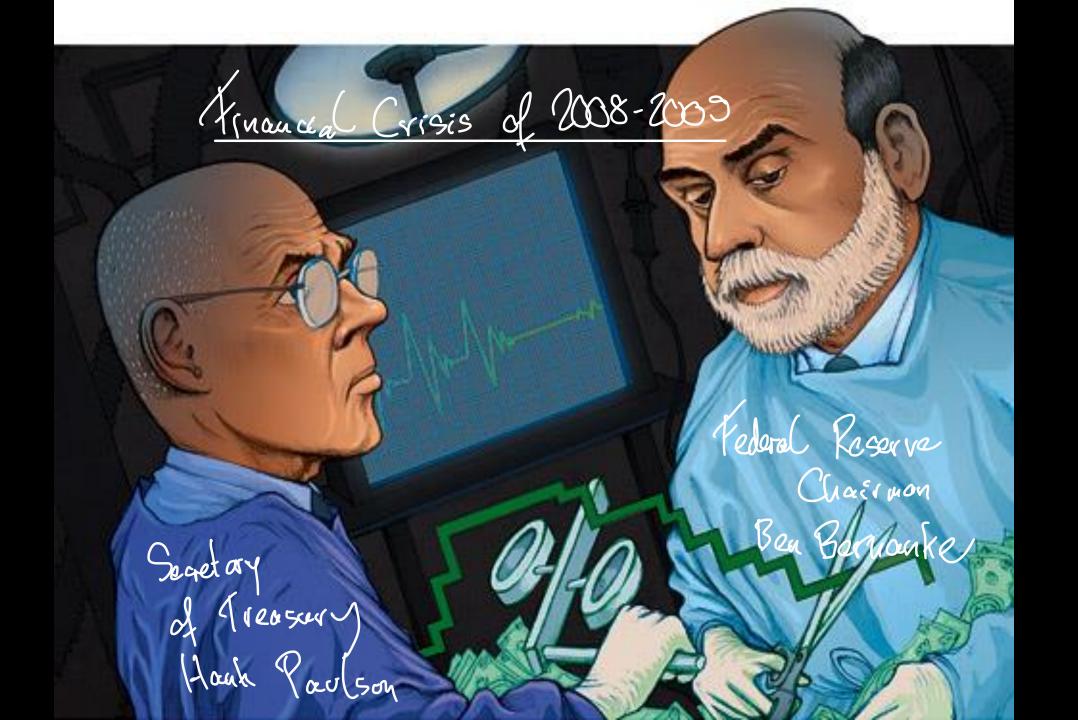


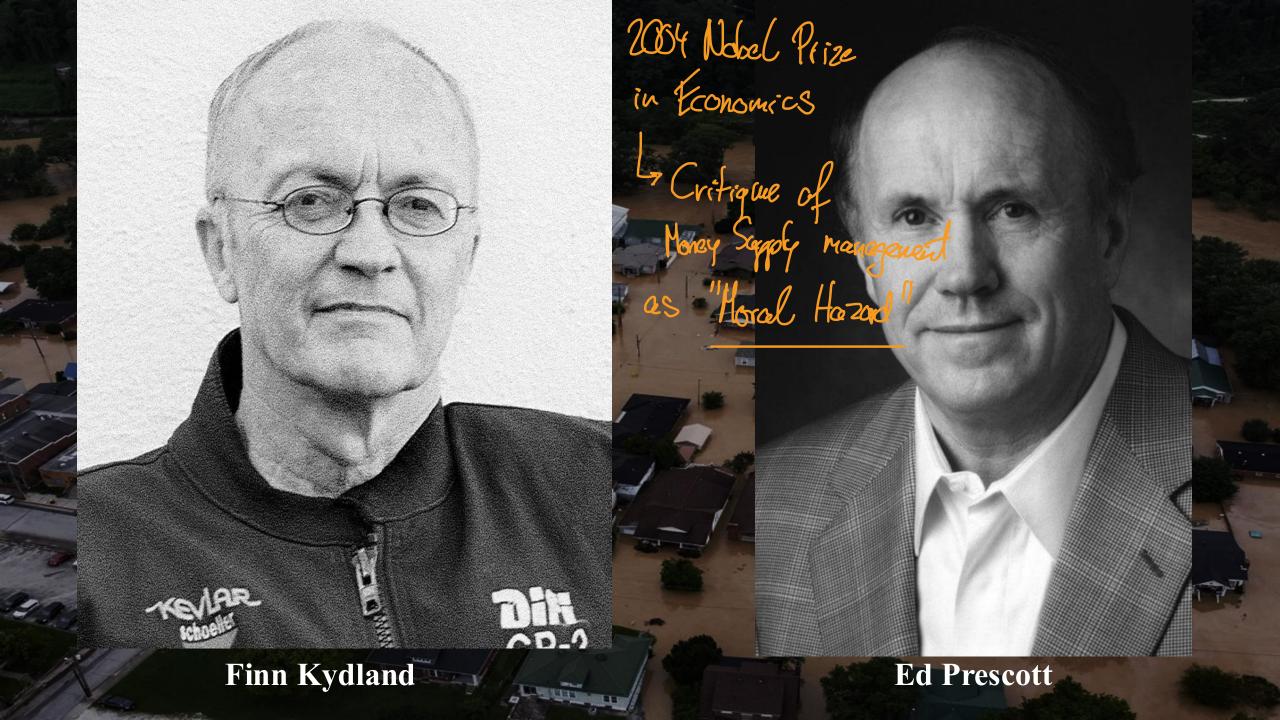
GREATEST TRADE EVER

THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES STORY OF HOW JOHN PAULSON DEFIED WALL STREET AND MADE FINANCIAL HISTORY



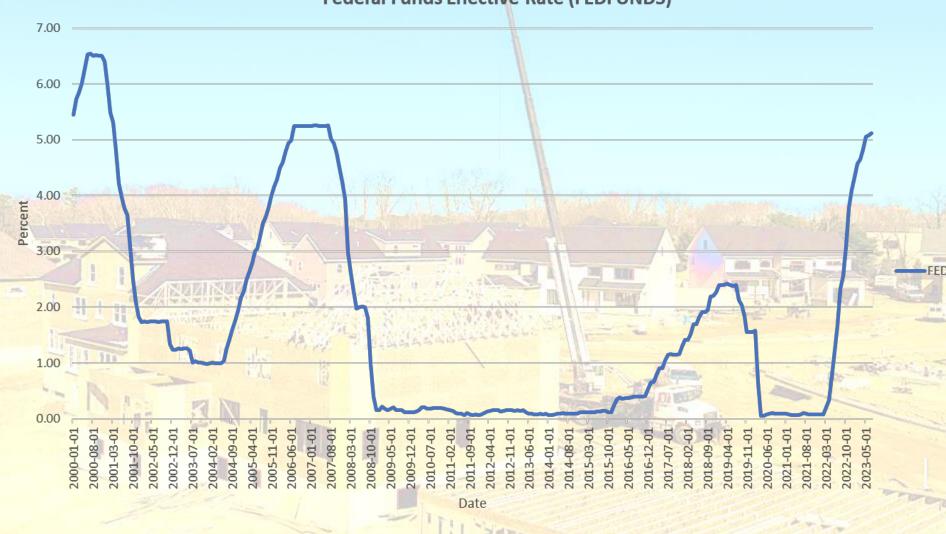






All Over The Place, Interest Rate of Lending between Leanks





THE TIMES

Max SC, min -5C

Saturday January 3 2009 timesonline.co.uk No 69523

101

£1.50

Chancellor on brink of second bailout for banks

Billions may be needed as lending squeeze tightens

Francis Elliott Deputy Political Editor Gary Duncan Economics Editor

Alistair Darling has been forced to consider a second bailout for banks as the lending drought worsens.

The Chancellor will decide within weeks whether to pump billions more into the economy as evidence mounts that the £37billion part-nationalisation last year has failed to keep credit flowing. Options include cash injections, offiering banks cheaper state guarantees to raise money privately or buying up "toxic assets", The Times has learnt.

The Bank of England revealed yester-

day that, despite intense pressure, the banks curbed lending in the final quarter of last year and plan even tighter restrictions in the coming months. Its findings will alarm the Treasury.

The Bank is expected to take yet more aggressive action this week by cutting the base rate from its current level of 2 per cent. Doing so would reduce the cost of borrowing but have little effect on the availability of loans.

Whitehall sources said that ministers planned to "keep the banks on the boil" but accepted that they need more help to restore lending levels. Formally, the Treasury plans to focus

on state-backed gurantees to encourage private finance, but a number of interventions are on the table, including further injections of taxpayers' cash.

Under one option, a "bad bank" would be created to dispose of bad

99p
Pub chain cuts the price of a pint from £1.69 to 1989 levels

Business, page 47

debts. The Treasury would take bad loans off the hands of troubled banks, perhaps swapping them for government bonds. The toxic assets, blamed for poisoning the financial system, would be parked in a state vehicle or "bad bank" that would manage them and attempt to dispose of them while "detoxifying" the mainstream banking system.

The idea would mirror the initial proposal by Henry Paulson, the US Treasury Secretary, to underpin the American banking system by buying

Continued on page 6, col 1 Leading article, page 2

<u>Bitcoin Genesis Block</u>

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The Evolution of Accounting Technology

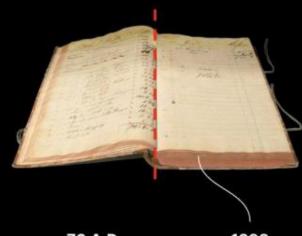
Single-entry



2000 B.C.

Mesopotamia Sumerian cuneiform describing the receipt of oxen

Double-entry

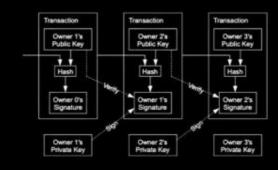


70 A.D.

Rome, Italy System of *Tabulae Rationum* described by Pliny the Elder 1299

Nîmes, France Earliest recorded use by Amatino Manucci

Triple-entry



2008

System of a independently verifiable chain of digital signatures by Satoshi Nakamoto