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Buttonwood

The Fed and the bond markets

How to avoid another taper tantrum

will be unsettling. Ideally the Fed would allow for longish pauses between its signal to taper, the taper itself and the first interest-rate rise to allow markets to settle.

It may not get the chance. Everything in this economic cycle is happening at great speed. That is in part a reflection of the scale of economic stimulus, and not only from the Fed. One big fiscal package seems set to follow another. A \$1.9trn package has barely passed and a \$3trn infrastructure bill is mooted. The Fed may be pushed to go through its paces faster than it would prefer.