WASHINGTON, DC 20549
FORM 10-Q
(Mark One)
$\begin{array}{cl}\text { X } & \text { Quarterly report pursuant to Section } 13 \text { or } 15(d) \text { of the Securities } \\ \text {----- } & \text { Exchange Act of } 1934 \text { for the quarterly period ended February } 28,\end{array}$ Exchange Act of 1934 for the quarterly period ended February 28, 1999 or

Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or $15(\mathrm{~d})$ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the transition period from to
$\qquad$
Commission file number 000-25349.

HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| Virginia | $54-0251350$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| (State or other jurisdiction of | (IRS Employer |
| incorporation or organization) | Identification No.) |

> 440 East Commonwealth Blvd. Martinsville, VA. 24112
> (Address of principal executive offices, Zip Code)
> (540) 632-2133
> (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)
> (Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

YES X NO

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock as of March 31, 1999.

## Class

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Common Stock, no par value

Number

3,816,649 Shares

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    HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION
                        BALANCE SHEETS
(In thousands, except share data)
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| Assets |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current assets |  |  |  |  |
| Cash, primarily interest-bearing deposits | \$ | 1,507 | \$ | 3,625 |
| Trade receivables, less allowances of \$525 and \$500. |  | 23,628 |  | 23, 346 |
| Inventories |  | 33,353 |  | 35,812 |
| Prepaid expenses and other |  | 2,793 |  | 1,637 |
| Total current assets |  | 61,281 |  | 64,420 |
| Property, plant and equipment, net |  | 41,557 |  | 41,500 |
| Investment in and advances to investee company |  | 2,302 |  | 2,371 |
| Other assets. |  | 2,951 |  | 2,942 |
|  |  | 108, 091 |  | 111,233 |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity |  |  |  |  |
| Current liabilities |  |  |  |  |
| Trade accounts payable. | \$ | 1,580 | \$ | 4,757 |
| Accrued salaries, wages and benefits |  | 2,840 |  | 4,464 |
| Other accrued expenses |  | 3,750 |  | 3,406 |
| Total current liabilities |  | 8,170 |  | 12,627 |
| Long-term debt |  | 11,062 |  | 12, 062 |
| Deferred liabilities |  | 2,463 |  | 2,431 |
| Total liabilities |  | 21,695 |  | 27,120 |
| Common stock held by ESOP. |  | 10,213 |  | 10,213 |
| Stockholders' Equity |  |  |  |  |
| Common stock, no par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized, |  |  |  |  |
| 3,816,649 and 3,835,725 shares issued and outstanding.... |  | 2,423 |  | 2,435 |
| Retained earnings |  | 73,760 |  | 71,465 |
| Total stockholders' equity. |  | 76,183 |  | 73,900 |
|  |  | 108, 091 |  | 111,233 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)
(In thousands, except per share data)

|  | Three En | onths d |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { February } 28, \\ 1999 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { February } 28, \\ 1998 \end{gathered}$ |
| Net sales | \$52, 604 | \$50, 573 |
| Cost of sales | 38,843 | 39,138 |
| Gross profit | 13,761 | 11,435 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 8,180 | 7,922 |
| Operating income | 5,581 | 3,513 |
| Other expenses, net | 145 | 68 |
| Income before taxes | 5,436 | 3,445 |
| Income taxes | 2,050 | 1,292 |
| Net income | \$ 3,386 | \$ 2,153 |
| Earnings per share: |  |  |
| Basic and diluted | \$ . 88 | \$ . 56 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding | 3,830 | 3,852 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION
    STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
                    (Unaudited)
(In thousands)
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(In thousands, except share and per share data)

## 1. Preparation of Interim Financial Statements

The financial statements of Hooker Furniture Corporation (referred to as "Hooker" or the "Company") have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). In the opinion of management, these statements include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the results of all interim periods reported herein. All such adjustments are of a normal recurring nature. Certain information and footnote disclosures prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles are condensed or omitted pursuant to SEC rules and regulations. However, management believes that the disclosures made are adequate for a fair presentation of results of operations and financial position. Operating results for the interim periods reported herein may not be indicative of the results expected for the year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and accompanying notes included in Hooker's recent report on Form 10.
2. Inventories

|  | (Unaudited) February 28, 1999 | $\begin{gathered} \text { November 30, } \\ 1998 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Finished furniture | \$28, 771 | \$29,786 |
| Furniture in process | 1,515 | 1,664 |
| Materials and supplies | 12,558 | 13,628 |
|  | 42,844 | 45,078 |
| Reduction to LIFO basis | 9,491 | 9,266 |
|  | \$33, 353 | \$35, 812 |

3. Property, Plant and Equipment

|  | (Unaudited) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | February | November |
|  | 28, 1999 | 30, 1998 |
| Buildings | \$ 32, 621 | \$ 32,621 |
| Machinery and equipment | 37,122 | 37, 007 |
| Office fixtures and equipment | 6,266 | 6,082 |
| Construction in progress and other | 10,094 | 9,199 |
| Property, plant and equipment, at cost | 86,103 | 84,909 |
| Less accumulated depreciation | $(45,727)$ | $(44,590)$ |
|  | 40,376 | 40,319 |
| Land | 1,181 | 1,181 |
|  | \$ 41, 557 | \$ 41, 500 |

4. Long-Term Debt


The Company owns a $50 \%$ interest in a joint venture that produces particleboard for manufacturing. During 1998, the joint venture was cited by the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") for a violation of certain regulations under the clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. The joint venture members determined that the cost of modification to the plant to come into compliance, together with other needed capital improvements, would be prohibitive and the joint venture elected to cease operations in November 1998. Company management is currently in negotiation for sale of the property and anticipates that any shortfall between the remaining carrying value of the joint venture investment, including any fines levied by the EPA, and the sale of the facility and the equipment will not be significant.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results
of Operations

Comparison of First Quarter 1999 to First Quarter 1998.

Net sales for the first quarter of 1999 were $4 \%$ higher than first quarter 1998. Net sales improved almost exclusively due to price increases.

Cost of sales as a percentage of net sales decreased to $73.8 \%$ in the first quarter 1999 from $77.4 \%$ in the first quarter of 1998. Reducing 1999 sales to 1998 pricing yields a cost of goods sold percentage of approximately $77.1 \%$. Slight increases in cost of labor and raw materials were offset by production efficiencies and changes in the mix of product produced.

Selling and administrative expenses decreased slightly to $15.6 \%$ in first quarter 1999 from 15.7\% in first quarter 1998.

Net income for the first quarter of 1999 increased $57 \%$ as compared to the first quarter of 1998. The increase in net income is the result of increased prices and stable costs.

Income taxes as a percentage of income before income taxes were at $37.7 \%$ in the first quarter of 1999 and $37.5 \%$ in the first quarter of 1998.

Order Backlogs

Management does not consider order backlogs to be an accurate indicator of expected business. With the emphasis in recent years on inventory-on-demand, dealers no longer find it necessary to place orders as far in advance as was once the case. However, order backlogs increased to $\$ 35.8$ million at the end of first quarter 1999 compared to $\$ 27.2$ million at the end of first quarter 1998. Historically, $92 \%$ of all orders booked are ultimately shipped, and backlogs are normally shipped within twelve months.

Liquidity and Sources of Capital

All working capital and cash requirements in the first quarter of 1999 were met through cash generated from operations. Also, during the first quarter, the Company made a voluntary reduction on its revolving line of credit of $\$ 1$ million. Borrowings outstanding at February 28, 1999 and November 30, 1998 were $\$ 11$ million and $\$ 12$ million, respectively, all of which were classified as long term. The Company declared a quarterly dividend of $\$ .15$ per share ( $\$ 574,000$ aggregate) in December 1998, paid in February 1999.

The Company bought 19,080 shares of its common stock at a total price of $\$ 529,000$ ( $\$ 27.75$ per share) in the first quarter of 1999 . The Company bought back 29,351 shares at a total price of $\$ 775,000$ ( $\$ 26.40$ per share) in all of 1998. The Company intends to continue buying back stock; however, the Company will assess future buy-back opportunities on an ongoing basis and the purchases made in the first quarter are not necessarily indicative of purchases expected for the balance of the year.

Future cash needs will be financed by cash flow from operations and current borrowing arrangements. The Company's current projections of future cash requirements, however, may be affected by numerous factors, including changes in customer payments on accounts receivable, consumer industry credit trends, sales volume, operating costs fluctuations, and unplanned capital spending.

The Company recognizes that the arrival of Year 2000 presents many challenges for information systems, as well as other time-sensitive machinery and equipment and other systems relied on for day-to-day operation of the business. In 1996 the Company embarked on a plan to identify, assess, and to modify or replace equipment and systems that may be impaired following December 31, 1999. A task force was created under the leadership of a corporate officer and comprised of representatives from administration, information services, and manufacturing to begin the identification and assessment phase of the project. Early assessments determined that the Company would be required to modify or replace significant portions of its Information Systems software so that computer systems would continue to function properly in Year 2000 and beyond. The Company decided to transition its operating systems from a non-compliant legacy mainframe to a compliant client-server network environment. During 1997 and 1998 predominately all of the required hardware was installed, tested, and Company employees trained on its use and operation. Efforts have been underway since 1996 to create new, or to transition existing operations software, to be Year 2000 compliant. As of February 28, 1999, certain critical operating systems had been transitioned to this new environment and are fully integrated into the day-today operation of the business. All other systems will be moved to the new environment by the end of third quarter 1999.

The task force has communicated in writing with all suppliers of goods and services to determine the extent to which the Company might be vulnerable to third parties' failure to remediate their own Year 2000 issue. If no response is received, a second request will be sent. By August 1, 1999, negative responses as to the suppliers' readiness or non-response will cause the supplier to be reviewed. The Company anticipates that non-compliant or unresponsive suppliers that provide critical product or services will be terminated and other year 2000 compliant suppliers will be used. Additionally, manufacturing personnel at each plant location have physically inventoried machinery, equipment, building systems, and other software for Year 2000 compliance. Manufacturers of equipment and software have been formally asked to respond to their products Year 2000 readiness. Equipment found lacking compliance will be modified or replaced prior to December 31, 1999. Additionally, certain critical equipment to the manufacture of product has been or will be tested by manufacturing personnel.

The principal cost associated with the Year 2000 compliance has been the purchase of computer hardware together with software costs. As of February 28, 1999, approximately $\$ 2.1$ million has been expended. It is management's estimate that additional cost for compliance will not exceed $\$ 800,000$. Funding for the Year 2000 compliance project has been provided by cash generated from operations. Project expenditures are being capitalized or expensed as appropriate and are not expected to have a material effect on the results of operations.

The Company cannot fully assess the risks of the Year 2000 problems due to numerous uncertainties surrounding the issue. However, the Company has five separate manufacturing locations, in two states and five separate communities each able to produce most products in the Company's line. Additionally, for most processes each plant has multiple machines from many manufacturers purchased over a long period of time. This flexibility also offers redundancy of operations within and between manufacturing locations so that in the event of a shutdown, product could be moved to other functional plant locations. The Company is also not dependent on any single supplier for raw materials or imported furniture. The Company has not developed a contingency plan in the event that the changes in its operating systems are not ready by December 31, 1999, but expects to have such a plan by August 1, 1999.

The failure to correct a material Year 2000 problem could result in the interruption or a failure of certain normal business activities or operations, which could materially and adversely affect the Company's results of operations, liquidity, and financial condition. Due to the general uncertainty inherent in the Year 2000 problem, resulting in part from the uncertainty of the Year 2000 readiness of third-party suppliers and customers, the Company is unable to determine at this time whether the consequences of Year 2000 problems will have a material impact on the Company's results of operations, liquidity, or financial condition.

Certain statements made in this report are not based on historical facts, but are forward-looking statements. These statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," or "anticipates" or the negative thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology, or by discussions of strategy. These statements reflect the Company's reasonable judgment with respect to future events and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include the cyclical nature of the furniture industry, fluctuations in the price for lumber which is the most significant raw material used by the Company, competition in the furniture industry, capital costs and general economic conditions.

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Based upon performance tests conducted in November 1998, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") issued the Company a Notice of Violation in March 1999 for the failure of two boilers at the Company's Martinsville facility to meet particulate emission limitations under the Clean Air Act. The Company made adjustments to one non-compliant boiler and conducted a second performance test in February 1999. The results of that second performance test indicated that the boiler was in compliance with its particulate limitations. The Company has forwarded those results to EPA. The Company has analyzed the operations of the second non-compliant boiler and has formulated a plan to bring that boiler into compliance with its particulate emission limitations. No final action has been taken by EPA in this matter, including the assessment of fines against the Company. Company management anticipates that costs incurred by the Company in connection with bringing both boilers into compliance, including any fines that might be levied by EPA, will not have a material adverse affect on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

On March 30, 1999, the Company held its Annual Meeting of Stockholders. At the meeting, the following business was transacted:

Messrs. J. C. Hooker, Jr., A. F. Hooker, Jr. Toms, Long, Ryder, Williams, Beeler, Groves, Walker and Gregory were elected to serve as directors of the Company for a term of one year. The votes for the election of Directors were as follows:
Mr. J.C. Hooker, Jr.
Mr. A. F. Hooker, Jr.
Mr. Toms
Mr. Long
Mr. Ryder
Mr. Williams
Mr. Beeler
Mr. Gregory
Mr. Groves
Mr. Walker

| FOR | WITHHELD |
| :--- | :--- |
| $3,105,508$ | 19,500 |
| $3,105,508$ | 19,500 |
| $3,105,508$ | 19,500 |
| $3,105,508$ | 19,500 |
| $3,105,508$ | 19,500 |
| $3,105,508$ | 19,500 |
| $3,105,508$ | 19,500 |
| $3,104,176$ | 20,832 |
| $3,105,508$ | 19,500 |
| $3,105,508$ | 19,500 |

The stockholders also ratified the selection of BDO Seidman, LLP as the Company's independent auditors. $3,124,408$ votes were cast in favor of the ratification; and 600 abstained.

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K
(a) Exhibits

Exhibit 27. 1 Financial Data Schedule for the quarter ended February 28, 1999.*
(b) Reports on Form 8-K

None.

* Filed herewith.


## SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION

Date: April 14, 1999

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By: /s/ E. Larry Ryder
    E. Larry Ryder
    Senior Vice President - Finance
        and Administration
    (Principal Financial and Accounting
        Officer)
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3-MOS
            NOV-30-1999
            DEC-01-1998
            FEB-28-1999
                                    1,507
                                    0
                    24, 153
                                    525
                                    33,353
            61, 281
                    45,727
                108, 091
            8,170
            10,213
                                    11, 062
                                    0
                                    2,423
                                    73,760
108, 091
                                    52,604
            52,604
                                    38, 843
                    47, 023
                    0
                    25
            163
            5,436
                2, 050
            3,386
                    \(0^{0}\)
            3,386
                    .88
                                    . 88
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Represents Common Stock held by ESOP

