

of their work maintaining or repairing Pullman cars. Management believes that costs related to these approximately 360 claims will not have a material adverse effect on the Company.

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

There were no matters submitted to a vote of security holders during the fourth quarter of 1996.

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

MARKET PRICES

From July 17, 1992 through June 15, 1995, the Abex Common Stock traded on the NYSE under the symbol ABE. Since June 16, 1995, the Company Common Stock has been traded on the NYSE under the symbol MFO. For the periods indicated, the high and low closing prices for the Abex and Company Common Stock as reported by the NYSE were as follows:

1995	HIGH	LOW
- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
First Quarter	\$7	\$8
Second Quarter (Abex through June 15, 1995)	10 1/2	7 5/8
Second Quarter (MC Group from June 16, 1995 through June 30, 1995)	22 3/8	19 3/4
Third Quarter	29 1/8	21 1/8
Fourth Quarter	26	17 1/4
1996		
- - - - -		
First Quarter	\$20 1/4	\$14
Second Quarter	24 7/8	15 5/8
Third Quarter	30 5/8	19 7/8
Fourth Quarter	30 1/4	23 7/8

As of the close of business on March 7, 1997, there were approximately 4,310 stockholders of record of Company Common Stock.

The Company has never paid any cash dividend with respect to the MC Group Common Stock, except for the \$10.00 special cash dividend paid on March 14, 1997 to holders of record on March 10, 1997. The MC Group Board of Directors will review its dividend policy from time to time in light of MC Group's results of operations and financial position and such other business considerations the MC Group Board of Directors deems relevant. The terms of the credit agreement (the "Cigar Credit Agreement") and Senior Subordinated Notes due 2003 ("Senior Notes") of Consolidated Cigar limit the payment of dividends or distributions by Consolidated Cigar to an amount equal to approximately \$9.3 million as of December 31, 1996. Therefore, the Company is limited in its ability to pay dividends to its