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# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### **FORM 10-Q**

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended: September 30, 2000

Commission file number: 1-11908

### Department 56, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

#### **Delaware**

13-3684956

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

One Village Place, 6436 City West Parkway, Eden Prairie, MN 55344

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(952) 944-5600

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 //

As of September 30, 2000, 13,409,603 shares of the registrant's common stock, par value \$.01 per share, were outstanding.

#### PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**Item 1. Financial Statements** 

DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (UNAUDITED) (In thousands)

> September 30, 2000 January 1, 2000

ASSETS

| 4/13/2019                                | Prepared by MERRILL CORPORATION www.edgaradvantage.com |         |    |         |  |
|--|--|---------|----|---------|--|
| Cash and cash equivalents                | \$   | _       | \$ | 3,962   |  |
| Accounts receivable, net                 |  | 114,721 |    | 65,580  |  |
| Inventories                              |  | 29,640  |    | 15,901  |  |
| Other current assets                     |  | 13,489  |    | 14,199  |  |
| Total current assets                     | _  | 157,850 |    | 99,642  |  |
| PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, net              |  | 31,674  |    | 29,857  |  |
| GOODWILL, TRADEMARKS AND OTHER           | , net  | 151,940 |    | 155,936 |  |
| OTHER ASSETS                             | •  | 5,463   |    | 1,673   |  |
|  | \$   | 346,927 | \$ | 287,108 |  |
| LIABILITIES A                            | AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY                               |         |    |         |  |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES:                     |  |         |    |         |  |
| Borrowings on revolving credit agreement | \$   | 55,500  | \$ | 42,500  |  |
| Accounts payable                         |  | 10,535  |    | 9,709   |  |
| Other current liabilities                |  | 24,267  |    | 15,144  |  |
| Total current liabilities                | _  | 90,302  |    | 67,353  |  |
| DEFERRED TAXES                           |  | 7,074   |    | 6,831   |  |
| LONG-TERM DEBT                           |  | 105,000 |    | 60,000  |  |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY                     |  | 144,551 |    | 152,924 |  |
|  | -<br>\$  | 346,927 | \$ | 287,108 |  |
|  |  |         |    |         |  |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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#### **DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES** CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (UNAUDITED) (In thousands, except per share amounts)

|   | Quarter Ended<br>September 30,<br>2000 |        | Quarter Ended<br>October 2,<br>1999 |        |  |
|---|--|--------|-------------------------------------|--------|--|
| NET SALES   | \$                                     | 69,924 | \$                                  | 75,093 |  |
| COST OF SALES   |  | 29,605 |                                     | 31,009 |  |
| Gross profit OPERATING EXPENSES:  |  | 40,319 |                                     | 44,084 |  |
| Selling, general, and administrative  |  | 16,237 |                                     | 16,494 |  |
| Amortization of goodwill, trademarks and other                                      |  | 1,374  |                                     | 1,290  |  |
| Total operating expenses  |  | 17,611 |                                     | 17,784 |  |
| INCOME FROM OPERATIONS<br>OTHER EXPENSE (INCOME):                                   |  | 22,708 |                                     | 26,300 |  |
| Interest expense  |  | 3,273  |                                     | 2,224  |  |
| Other, net  |  | 1      |                                     | (54)   |  |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES  |  | 19,434 |                                     | 24,130 |  |
| PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES  |  | 7,386  |                                     | 9,171  |  |
| NET INCOME  | \$                                     | 12,048 | \$                                  | 14,959 |  |
| NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE   | \$                                     | 0.86   | \$                                  | 0.88   |  |
| THE INCOME LER COMMON SHARE   | Ψ                                      |        | ψ<br>===                            |        |  |
| NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE ASSUMING DILUTION                                       | \$                                     | 0.85   | \$                                  | 0.87   |  |
| https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/902270/000091205700049572/a2029926z10-g.htm |  |        |                                     |        |  |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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#### DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (UNAUDITED) (In thousands, except per share amounts)

|  | 39 Weeks Ended<br>September 30,<br>2000 |                   | 39 Weeks Ended<br>October 2, 1999 |                   |
|--|---|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| NET SALES<br>COST OF SALES                     | \$                                      | 168,037<br>72,836 | \$                                | 191,462<br>78,239 |
|  | _                                       |                   | _                                 |                   |
| Gross profit                                   |   | 95,201            |                                   | 113,223           |
| OPERATING EXPENSES:                            |   |                   |                                   |                   |
| Selling, general, and administrative           |   | 55,446            |                                   | 45,446            |
| Amortization of goodwill, trademarks and other |   | 4,112             |                                   | 3,822             |
| Total operating expenses                       |   | 59,558            |                                   | 49,268            |
| INCOME FROM OPERATIONS                         |   | 35,643            |                                   | 63,955            |
| OTHER EXPENSE (INCOME):                        |   |                   |                                   |                   |
| Interest expense                               |   | 8,344             |                                   | 4,136             |
| Other, net                                     |   | (395)             |                                   | 73                |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES                     |   | 27.694            |                                   | 59,746            |
| PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES                     |   | 10,524            |                                   | 22,705            |
| NET INCOME                                     | \$                                      | 17,170            | \$                                | 37,041            |
|  |   |                   |                                   |                   |
| NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE                    | \$                                      | 1.19              | \$                                | 2.11              |
|  |   |                   |                                   |                   |
| NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE ASSUMING DILUTION  | \$                                      | 1.18              | \$                                | 2.08              |
|  |   |                   |                                   |                   |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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# DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED) (In thousands)

|   | 39 Weeks Ended<br>September 30,<br>2000 | 39 Weeks Ended<br>October 2, 1999 |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES— Net cash used in operating activities CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | \$ (26,560)                             | \$ (85,701)                       |
| Purchases of property and equipment   | (5,773)                                 | (10,111)                          |
| Investment in subsidiary  | (4,000)                                 | _                                 |
| Acquisitions  |   | (1,793)                           |
| Net cash used in investing activities   | (9,773)                                 | (11,904)                          |

| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:                            |             |              |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| Proceeds from the exercise of common stock options               | 66          | 1,149        |
| Purchases of treasury stock                                      | (25,695)    | (38,381)     |
| Borrowings on revolving credit agreement                         | 13,000      | 132,500      |
| Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt                         | 90,000      | _            |
| Principal payments on long-term debt                             | (45,000)    |              |
| Net cash provided by financing activities                        | <br>32,371  | 95,268       |
| NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS                        | (3,962)     | (2,337)      |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD                 | 3,962       | 2,783        |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD                       | \$<br>_     | \$<br>446    |
| SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION—Cash paid for: |             |              |
| Interest   | \$<br>7,212 | \$<br>5,373  |
| Income taxes   | \$<br>5,953 | \$<br>21,701 |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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## DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of January 1, 2000 was derived from the audited consolidated balances as of that date. The remaining accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements are unaudited and, in the opinion of management, include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation.

The results of operations for the quarter ended September 30, 2000 and the 39 weeks ended September 30, 2000 are not necessarily indicative of the results for the full fiscal year.

It is suggested that these financial statements be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the 1999 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed by Department 56, Inc. (the "Company") with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### 2. Net Income Per Common Share

Net income per common share is calculated by dividing net income by the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period. Net income per common share assuming dilution reflects per share amounts that would have resulted had the Company's outstanding stock options been converted to common stock.

#### 3. Stockholders' Equity

The Company has a stock repurchase program. During the quarter ended September 30, 2000, the Company repurchased 896,100 shares at a cost of \$12.3 million under its existing stock repurchase program. During the 39 weeks ended September 30, 2000, the Company repurchased 1,777,300 shares at a cost of \$25.7 million. Since January 1997, the Company has repurchased a total of 8.6 million shares at an average price of \$24 per share. As of September 30, 2000, the Company had remaining authorization from the Board of Directors to repurchase \$60 million of its stock through 2001. The timing, prices and amounts of shares repurchased, as well as the manner of execution, will be determined at the discretion of the Company's management and subject to continued compliance with the Company's credit facilities.

#### 4. Investment in Subsidiary

During January 2000, the Company completed a \$4.0 million strategic minority investment in 2-Day Designs, Inc., a manufacturer and marketer of high quality accent furniture and wooden accessories sold primarily through furniture, home furnishings, and catalog retailers principally in the United States. The transaction is recorded under the equity method of accounting.

#### 5. New Accounting Standards

In June 1998, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities". The statement, as amended by SFAS No. 138 issued in June 2000, requires that all derivatives be recognized in the financial statements as either assets or liabilities measured at fair value, and also specifies new methods of accounting for hedging transactions. The Company is required to apply this statement in its first quarter of fiscal year 2001. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of this statement.

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In December 1999, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 101 (SAB 101), "Revenue Recognition in Financial Statements." SAB 101 summarized the SEC's view in applying generally accepted accounting principles to selected revenue recognition issues. The Company is required to apply SAB 101 in the fourth quarter of 2000 retroactively to the first quarter of 2000. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of this statement.

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

#### **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Comparison of Results of Operations for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2000 to the Quarter Ended October 2, 1999.

|  | s  | Quarter Ended<br>September 30, 2000 |                   | Quarter 1<br>October 2 |                   |  |
|--|----|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|
|  | Б  | ollars                              | % of<br>Net Sales | Dollars                | % of<br>Net Sales |  |
|  |    |                                     | (Dollars in m     |                        |                   |  |
| Net sales                                      | \$ | 69.9                                | 100%\$            | 75.1                   | 100%              |  |
| Gross profit                                   |    | 40.3                                | 58                | 44.1                   | 59                |  |
| Selling, general, and administrative expenses  |    | 16.2                                | 23                | 16.5                   | 22                |  |
| Amortization of goodwill, trademarks and other |    | 1.4                                 | 2                 | 1.3                    | 2                 |  |
| Income from operations                         |    | 22.7                                | 33                | 26.3                   | 35                |  |
| Interest expense                               |    | 3.3                                 | 5                 | 2.2                    | 3                 |  |
| Other income, net                              |    | 0.0                                 | _                 | (0.1)                  | _                 |  |
| Income before income taxes                     |    | 19.4                                | 28                | 24.1                   | 32                |  |
| Provision for income taxes                     |    | 7.4                                 | 11                | 9.2                    | 12                |  |
| Net income                                     |    | 12.0                                | 17                | 15.0                   | 20                |  |

Net Sales. Net sales decreased \$5.2 million, or 7%, from \$75.1 million in the third quarter of 1999 to \$69.9 million in the third quarter of 2000. The decrease in sales was principally due to a decrease in volume, and the impact of a customer appreciation discount the Company offered on orders taken during the first quarter of 2000 for most product categories. Sales of the Company's Village Series products decreased \$6.7 million, or 14%, while sales of General Giftware products increased \$1.5 million, or 5% between the two periods. Village Series and General Giftware products represented 58% and 42%, respectively, of the Company's net sales during the third quarter of 2000.

Gross Profit. Gross profit decreased \$3.8 million, or 9%, between the third quarter of 1999 and the third quarter of 2000. The decrease in gross profit was principally due to the decrease in sales volume. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales decreased from 59% in the third quarter of 1999 to approximately 58% in the third quarter of 2000, principally due to a change in the mix of product shipped during the third quarter of 2000 as compared to the third quarter of 1999, and the impact of a customer appreciation discount referred to above.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses decreased \$0.3 million, or 2%, between the third quarter of 1999 and the third quarter of 2000. The decrease was principally due to the write-off of acquisition related costs during the third quarter of 1999, offset partially by increased depreciation and expenses related to the Company's investment in information systems and a new distribution center. Selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of sales was 22% and 23% in the third quarter of 1999 and 2000, respectively.

*Income from Operations*. Income from operations decreased \$3.6 million, between the third quarter of 1999 and the third quarter of 2000 due to the factors described above. Income from operations was 35% and 33% of net sales in the third quarter of 1999 and 2000, respectively.

*Interest Expense*. Interest expense increased \$1.1 million, or 47%, between the third quarter of 1999 and the third quarter of 2000 principally due to increased borrowings under the Company's credit facilities in 2000 and increased interest rates paid by the Company. Additional borrowings were required as a result of share repurchases.

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Provision for Income Taxes. The effective income tax rate was 38% during the third quarter of 1999 and 2000.

#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Comparison of Results of Operations for the 39 Weeks Ended September 30, 2000 to the 39 Weeks Ended October 2, 1999.

|  | 39 Weeks E<br>September 30 |         |                   | 39 Weeks Ended<br>October 2, 1999 |                   |  |
|--|----------------------------|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--|
|  | 1                          | Oollars | % of<br>Net Sales | Dollars                           | % of<br>Net Sales |  |
|  |                            |         | (Dollars in m     | illions)                          |                   |  |
| Net sales                                      | \$                         | 168.0   | 100%\$            | 191.5                             | 100%              |  |
| Gross profit                                   |                            | 95.2    | 57                | 113.2                             | 59                |  |
| Selling, general, and administrative expenses  |                            | 55.4    | 33                | 45.5                              | 24                |  |
| Amortization of goodwill, trademarks and other |                            | 4.1     | 2                 | 3.8                               | 2                 |  |
| Income from operations                         |                            | 35.6    | 21                | 64.0                              | 33                |  |
| Interest expense                               |                            | 8.3     | 5                 | 4.1                               | 2                 |  |
| Other (income) expense, net                    |                            | (0.4)   | _                 | 0.1                               | _                 |  |
| Income before income taxes                     |                            | 27.7    | 16                | 59.7                              | 31                |  |
| Provision for income taxes                     |                            | 10.5    | 6                 | 22.7                              | 12                |  |
| Net income                                     |                            | 17.2    | 10                | 37.0                              | 19                |  |

Net Sales. Net sales decreased \$23.4 million, or 12%, from \$191.5 million in 1999 to \$168.0 million in 2000. The decrease in sales was principally due to a decrease in volume, the \$6.5 million increase in the amount charged against sales for product claims during the first quarter of 2000, and the impact of a customer appreciation discount the Company offered on orders taken during the first quarter of 2000 for most product categories. The increase in the amount charged against sales for product claims in the first quarter of 2000 was the result of the problems experienced during the implementation of the Company's new enterprise-wide information system beginning in early 1999. Sales of the Company's Village Series products decreased \$20.1 million, or 16%, while sales of General Giftware products decreased \$3.3 million, or 5% between the two periods. Village Series and General Giftware products represented 65% and 35%, respectively, of the Company's net sales in 2000. Excluding the \$6.5 million increase in the amount charged against sales for product claims, net sales decreased \$16.9 million, or 9%, between the two periods.

Gross Profit. Gross profit decreased \$18.0 million, or 16%, between 1999 and 2000. The decrease in gross profit was principally due to the decrease in sales volume, the \$6.5 million increase in the amount charged against sales for product claims in the first quarter of 2000, and the impact of the customer appreciation discount referred to above. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales was 59% and 57% in 1999 and 2000, respectively. Excluding the \$6.5 million increase in the amount charged against sales for product claims, gross profit would have decreased \$11.5 million, or 10%, between the first half of 1999 and 2000, and gross profit as a percent of sales would have been 58%.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$10.0 million, or 22%, between 1999 and 2000. The increase is principally due to an increase in the amount provided for bad debts of \$5.5 million, and an increase in depreciation and expenses related to the Company's investment in information systems and a new distribution center. The increase in the provision for bad debts was the result of the problems the Company experienced during the implementation of its new enterprise-wide information system beginning in early 1999. Selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of sales increased from approximately 24% in 1999 to 33% in 2000. Excluding the \$6.5 million increase in the amount charged against sales for product claims and

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the \$5.5 million increase in the amount provided for bad debts, selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of sales would have been 29% in 2000.

*Income from Operations*. Income from operations decreased \$28.3 million, or 44%, between 1999 and 2000 due to the factors described above. Income from operations was 33% and 21% of net sales in 1999 and 2000, respectively. Excluding the \$6.5 million increase in the

amount charged against sales for product claims and the \$5.5 million increase in the amount provided for bad debts, income from operations would have been 27% of net sales in 2000.

*Interest Expense*. Interest expense increased \$4.2 million, or 102%, between 1999 and 2000 principally due to increased borrowings under the Company's credit facilities in 2000 and increased interest rates paid by the Company. Additional borrowings were required as a result of share repurchases.

Provision for Income Taxes. The effective tax rate was 38% during the 39 weeks ended October 2, 1999 and September 30, 2000.

#### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company's credit agreement provides a \$100 million revolving credit facility and a \$150 million term loan facility. The revolving credit facility provides for borrowings of up to \$100 million including letters of credit. The letters of credit are issued primarily in connection with inventory purchases. The credit agreement contains numerous financial and operating covenants, including restrictions on incurring indebtedness and liens, selling property and paying dividends. In addition, the Company is required to satisfy consolidated net worth, interest coverage ratio and leverage ratio tests, in each case at the end of each fiscal quarter. None of these restrictions are expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's ability to operate in the future.

During the first quarter of 2000, the Company borrowed an additional \$90 million of term debt under its current term debt facility which brought the total outstanding term debt to \$150 million as of April 1, 2000. During the second quarter of 2000, the Company prepaid \$45 million of term debt which can not be re-borrowed and included the \$22.5 million payment due March 2001. The Company is obligated to repay the \$105 million outstanding at September 30, 2000 with annual payments of \$20.9 million, \$32.4 million, and \$51.7 million due March 2002, 2003, and 2004, respectively.

The Company believes that its internally generated cash flow and seasonal borrowings under the revolving credit facility and term loan will be adequate to fund operations and capital expenditures for the next twelve months.

Consistent with customary practice in the giftware industry, the Company offers extended accounts receivable terms to many of its customers. This practice has typically created significant working capital requirements in the second and third quarters which the Company has generally financed with available cash, internally generated cash flow and seasonal borrowings. The Company's cash and cash equivalents balances peak in December, following the collection in November and December of accounts receivable with extended payment terms.

Accounts receivable, net of reserves, decreased from \$146.8 million at October 2, 1999 to \$114.7 million at September 30, 2000. The decrease in accounts receivable was principally due to higher cash collections in 2000 compared to 1999 and a decrease in sales. Cash collections in 1999 were lower than normal due to the problems experienced in 1999 related to the implementation of the Company's enterprise-wide information system.

The Company has a stock repurchase program. During the quarter ended September 30, 2000, the Company repurchased 896,100 shares at a cost of \$12.3 million under its existing stock repurchase program. During the 39 weeks ended September 30, 2000, the Company repurchased 1,777,300 shares

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at a cost of \$25.7 million. Since January 1997, the Company has repurchased a total of 8.6 million shares at an average price of \$24 per share. As of September 30, 2000, the Company had remaining authorization from the Board of Directors to repurchase \$60 million of its stock through 2001. The timing, prices and amounts of shares repurchased, as well as the manner of execution, will be determined at the discretion of the Company's management and subject to continued compliance with the Company's credit facilities.

#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The dollar value of the Company's assets abroad is not significant. Substantially all of the Company's sales are denominated in United States dollars and, as a result, are not subject to changes in exchange rates.

The Company imports most of its products from manufacturers located in the Pacific Rim, primarily China, Taiwan (Republic of China) and The Philippines. These transactions are principally denominated in U.S. dollars, except for imports from Taiwan which are principally denominated in New Taiwan dollars. The Company, from time to time, will enter into foreign exchange contracts or build foreign currency deposits as a partial hedge against currency fluctuations. The Company intends to manage foreign exchange risks to the extent possible and take appropriate action where warranted. The Company's costs could be adversely affected if the currencies of the countries in which the manufacturers operate appreciate significantly relative to the U.S. dollar.

#### **EFFECT OF INFLATION**

The Company continually attempts to minimize any effect of inflation on earnings by controlling its operating costs and selling prices. During the past few years, the rate of inflation has not had a material impact on the Company's results of operations.

#### SEASONALITY AND CUSTOMER ORDERS

The Company generally records its highest level of sales during the second and third quarters as retailers stock merchandise in anticipation of the holiday season. The Company can also experience fluctuations in quarterly sales and related net income compared with the prior year due to timing of receipt of product from suppliers and subsequent shipment of product from the Company to customers.

## Customer Orders Entered(1) (In millions)

|                      | 1st Qtr              |   | 2nd Qtr           | 3rd<br>Qtr           | lth<br>Qtr   | Total                 |
|----------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1998<br>1999<br>2000 | \$ 17-<br>18:<br>16: | 2 | \$ 50<br>48<br>51 | \$<br>37<br>40<br>35 | 8<br>11<br>— | \$<br>269<br>281<br>— |

(1)

Customer orders entered are orders received and approved by the Company, subject to cancellation for various reasons, including credit considerations, inventory shortages, and customer requests.

Historically, principally due to the timing of wholesale trade shows early in the calendar year and the limited supply of the Company's products, the Company has received the majority of its orders during the first quarter of each year. The Company entered 65% of its total annual customer orders for both 1999 and 1998, during the first quarter of each of those years. Cancellations of total annual customer orders were approximately 8% and 7% in 1999 and 1998, respectively.

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The Company shipped and recorded as net sales (net of returns, allowances and cash discounts), approximately 87% and 91% of its annual customer orders in 1999 and 1998, respectively. Orders not shipped in a particular period, net of cancellations, are carried into backlog. The Company's backlog was \$65.5 million as of September 30, 2000, as compared to \$64.3 million as of October 2, 1999.

Through the third quarter of 2000, customer orders entered decreased 7% as compared to the same period for 1999. Customer orders entered for Village Series products have decreased 11% through the third quarter of 2000 while customer orders entered for General Giftware products have increased 2%.

Certain General Giftware products have lower gross profit rates than the Company's average gross profit rate. In addition, from time to time, the Company liquidates product at lower than average gross profit rates. As a result, gross profit may vary depending on the mix of product shipped.

Notes concerning forward-looking statements:

Any conclusions or expectations expressed in, or drawn from, the statements in this filing concerning matters that are not historical corporate financial results are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties. Please read the bases, assumptions and factors set out in the Company's Form 10-K for 1999 dated March 29, 2000 and filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, all of which is incorporated herein by reference. Actual results may vary materially from forward-looking statements and the assumptions on which they are based. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or publish in the future any forward-looking statements.

#### Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K.

(a) The following documents are filed as exhibits to this Report.

11.1 Computation of net income per share.

11.2

Company press release dated October 25, 2000.

11.3 Company press release dated November 3, 2000.

27.1 Financial data schedule (EDGAR filing only).

(b) Reports on Form 8-K.

None.

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#### **SIGNATURES**

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

#### DEPARTMENT 56, INC.

| Date: November 14, 2000 | By: | /s/ SUSAN E. ENGEL   |
|-------------------------|-----|--|
|                         |     | Susan E. Engel<br>Chairwoman of the Board, Chief Executive<br>Officer and Director |
| Date: November 14, 2000 | By: | /s/ PERCY C. TOMLINSON, JR.  |
|                         |     | Percy C. Tomlinson, Jr.  Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice  President     |
| Date: November 14, 2000 | By: | /s/ GREGG A. PETERS  |
|                         |     | Gregg A. Peters  Director of Finance and Principal Accounting  Officer             |
|                         |     | 13   |

#### **EXHIBIT INDEX**

| Exhibit<br>Number | Exhibit<br>Name                               | Page<br>Number |
|-------------------|---|----------------|
| 11.1              | Computation of net income per share.          |                |
| 11.2              | Company press release dated October 25, 2000. |                |
| 11.3              | Company press release dated November 3, 2000. |                |

27.1

#### QuickLinks

PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (UNAUDITED) (In thousands) DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (UNAUDITED) (In thousands, except per share amounts)

DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (UNAUDITED) (In thousands, except per share amounts)

<u>DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)</u>
(In thousands)

DEPARTMENT 56, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Customer Orders Entered(1) (In millions)

**SIGNATURES** 

**EXHIBIT INDEX**