UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 1996

or

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

Commission File Number 1-9861

FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New York (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 16-0968385 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

One M & T Plaza Buffalo, New York (Address of principal executive offices)

14240 (Zip Code)

(716) 842-5445 (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 \times No

Number of shares of the registrant's Common Stock, \$5 par value, outstanding as of the close of business on August 1, 1996: 6,719,387 shares.

..... FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION -----. FORM 10-Q For the Quarterly Period Ended June 30, 1996 Table of Contents of Information Required in Report Page Part I. Financial Information Ttem 1. **Financial Statements** Consolidated Balance Sheet -June 30, 1996 and December 31, 1995 3 Consolidated Statement of Income -Three and six months ended June 30, 1996 and 1995 4 Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows -Six months ended June 30, 1996 and 1995 5 Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity - Six months ended June 30, 1996 and 1995 6 Consolidated Summary of Changes in Allowance for Possible Credit Losses -Six months ended June 30, 1996 and 1995 6 Notes to Financial Statements 7 Management's Discussion and Analysis Ttem 2. of Financial Condition and Results of **Operations** 8 Part II. Other Information 19

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Item I. Financial Statements

FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (Unaudited)

Dollars in thousands, e	except per share	June 30, 1996	December 31, 1995
Assets	Cash and due from banks	\$ 376,309	363,119
	Money-market assets Interest-bearing deposits at banks	14,451	125,500
	Federal funds sold and agreements to resell securities	23,136	1,000
	Trading account	31,481	9,709
	Total money-market assets		136,209
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	Investment securities Available for sale (cost: \$1,589,452 at June 30,1996; \$1,537,393 at December 31,1995)	1,565,853	1,531,893
	Held to maturity (market value: \$195,253 at June 30,1996; \$187,476 at December 31,1995)	194,693	185,834
	Other (market value: \$56,505 at June 30,1996; \$51,568 at December 31,1995)	56,505	51,568
	Total investment securities	1,817,051	1,769,295
	Loans and leases	10,487,452	9,873,723
	Unearned discount	(358,282)	(317,874)
	Allowance for possible credit losses	(269,951)	(262,344)
	Loans and leases, net	9,859,219	9,293,505
	Premises and equipment	125,629	128,516
	Accrued interest and other assets	295 081	265 258
	Total assets	\$12,542,357	11,955,902
Liabilities	Noninterest-bearing deposits	\$ 1,172,333	1,184,359
	NOW accounts	780,699	768,559
	Savings deposits	2,838,646	2,765,301
	Time deposits	5,126,031	4,596,053
	Deposits at foreign office	274,974	155,303
	Total deposits	10,192,683	9,469,575
	Federal funds purchased and agreements		
	to repurchase securities	915,151	1,213,372
	Other short-term borrowings	219,140	59,834
	Accrued interest and other liabilities	164,138	174,077
	Long-term borrowings	190,222	192,791
	Total liabilities	11,681,334	
Stockholders' equity	Preferred stock, \$1 par, 1,000,000 shares		
	authorized, 40,000 shares outstanding at December 31, 1995, stated at aggregate liquidation value		40,000
	Common stock, \$5 par, 15,000,000 shares authorized, 8,097,472 shares issued	40,487	40,487
	Surplus	93,132	98,657
	Undivided profits	870,171	805,486
	Unrealized investment losses, net	(13,629)	(3,155)
	Treasury stock - common, at cost - 1,301,803 shares at June 30, 1996; 1,664,306 shares at December 31, 1995	(129,138)	(135,222)
	Total stockholders' equity	861,023	846,253
	Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$12,542,357	11,955,902

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FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES	

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME (Unaudited)

		Three mont Jur	hs ended le 30	Six month June	
mounts in thousands,	except per share	1996	1995	1996	1995
nterest income	Loans and leases, including fees	\$217,042	195,963	430,248	380,979
	Money-market assets				
	Deposits at banks	266	2,225	1,297	3,519
	Federal funds sold and agreements				
	to resell securities	779	2,227	2,182	2,427
	Trading account	232	348	505	520
	Investment securities	~ ~ ~ ~	~ ~ ~ ~ ~	50 005	
	Fully taxable	28,646	29,692	56,065	57,269
	Exempt from federal taxes	638	738	1,083	1,565
	Total interest income	247,603	231,193	491,380	446,279
Interest expense	NOW accounts	2,642	2,948	5,415	5,713
	Savings deposits	20,673	21,920	41,194	44,232
	Time deposits	68,920	60,008	134,376	111,581
	Deposits at foreign office	3,534	1,504	5,663	3,840
	Short-term borrowings	15,657	23,787	35,346	39,450
	Long-term borrowings	3,570	1,929	7,187	3,859
	Total interest expense	114,996	112,096	229,181	208,675
	Net interest income	132,607	119,097	262,199	237,604
	Provision for possible credit losses	11,700	8,515	21,375	17,015
	Net interest income after provision				
	for possible credit losses	120,907	110,582	240,824	220,589
her income	Mortgage banking revenues	11,275	7,616	21,666	10,488
	Trust income	7,073	5,847	13,246	11,584
	Service charges on deposit accounts	10,128	9,574	20,033	18,793
	Merchant discount and other credit card fees	4,220	2,415	7,275	4,688
	Trading account and foreign exchange gain	858	220	154	1,080
	Gain (loss) on sales of bank investment securities	109	(46)	427	(46)
	Other revenues from operations	7,800	8,262	14,913	13,703
	Total other income	41,463	33,888	77,714	60,290
her expense	Salaries and employee benefits	49,133	44,148	101,261	90,375
	Equipment and net occupancy	12,699	12,179	26,115	24,885
	Printing, postage and supplies	3,863	3,504	7,682	7,099
	Deposit insurance	778	4,264	1,558	8,528
	Other costs of operations	31,448	26,174	57,622	48,876
	Total other expense	97,921	90,269	194,238	179,763
	Income before income taxes	64,449	54,201	124,300	101,116
	Income taxes	25,790	22,747	49,488	42,494
	Net income	\$ 38,659	31,454	74,812	58,622
	Net income per common share				
	Primary	\$5.36	4.51	10.56	8.36
	Fully diluted	5.36	4.31	10.32	7.99
	Cash dividends per common share	. 70	. 60	1.40	1.20
	Average common charge exitetending				
	Average common shares outstanding	7 010	6 760	6 005	6 704
	Primary	7,212	6,768	6,995	6,794
	Fully diluted	7,216	7,293	7,245	7,338

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	FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES		
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF			
Dollars in thousands		1996	ns ended June 30 1995
Cash flows from	Net income	\$ 74,812	58,622
operating activities	Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash		
	provided by operating activities Provision for possible credit losses	21,375	17,015
	Depreciation and amortization of premises	21,375	17,010
	and equipment	9,886	9,524
	Amortization of capitalized mortgage servicing rights	5,065	3,02
	Provision for deferred income taxes	(6,216)	(7,452
	Asset write-downs	605	3,183
	Net gain on sales of assets	(599)	(26:
	Net change in accrued interest receivable, payable	(7,000)	(1,60
	Net change in other accrued income and expense	2,049	50,553
	Net change in loans held for sale	(10,540)	(110,78
	Net change in trading account assets and liabilities	(12,018)	(29,911
	Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	77,419	(8,082
ash flows from	Proceeds from sales of investment securities		
Investing activities	Available for sale	143,235	41,348
	Proceeds from maturities of investment securities		
	Available for sale	269,661	130,128
	Held to maturity	20,349	27,82
	Purchases of investment securities	(466, 106)	(201 20)
	Available for sale Held to maturity	(466, 126)	(381,38
	Other	(29,213) (2,776)	(117,905
	Net (increase) decrease in interest-bearing	(2,770)	(2,641
	deposits at banks	111,049	(125,357
	Net increase in loans and leases	(577,434)	(530,123
	Capital expenditures, net	(6,918)	(5,918
	Acquisitions, net of cash acquired		(18,691
	Other, net	(12,578)	(59
	Net cash used by investing activities	(550,751)	(982,777
Cash flows from	Net increase in deposits	721,888	621,366
inancing activities	Net increase (decrease) in short-term borrowings	(151,830)	325,117
	Payments on long-term borrowings	(2,638)	(56
	Purchases of treasury stock	(42,899)	(22,727
	Dividends paid - common	(9,227)	(7,847
	Dividends paid - preferred	(900)	(1,800
	Other, net	(5,736)	4,496
	Net cash provided by financing activities	508,658	918,54
	Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	\$ 35,326	(72,310
	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	364,119	380,86
	Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 399,445	308,551
Supplemental	Interest received during the period	\$ 482,499	428,922
disclosure of cash	Interest paid during the period	229,783	184,091
flow information	Income taxes paid during the period	54,733	20,873
Supplemental schedule of			
oncash investing and	Real estate acquired in settlement of loans	\$ 4,097	3,39
inancing activities	Conversion of preferred stock to common stock	40,000	-

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FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (Unaudited)

					Unrealized investment gains		
Dollars in thousands,	Preferred	Common		Undivided	(losses),	Treasurv	
except per share	stock	stock	Surplus		net	stock	Total
1995							
Balance - January 1, 1995	\$40,000	40,487	98,014	694,274	(50,555)	(101,224)	\$720,996
Vet income				58,622			58,622
Preferred stock cash dividends				(1,800)			(1, 800)
Common stock cash dividends -				.,,,			()
\$1.20 per share				(7,847)			(7,847)
xercise of stock options			459			2,140	2,599
Purchases of treasury stock						(22,727)	(22,727)
Inrealized gains on investment							
securities available for sale, net					44,115		44,115
Balance - June 30, 1995	\$40,000	40,487	98,473	743,249	(6,440)	(121,811)	\$793,958
Balance - January 1, 1996	\$40,000	40,487	98,657	805,486	(3,155)	(135,222)	\$846,253
let income	·	·	·	74,812			74,812
Preferred stock cash dividends				(900)			(900)
Common stock cash dividends -							
\$1.40 per share				(9,227)			(9,227)
Exercise of stock options			1,009			2,449	3,458
Purchases of treasury stock						(42,899)	(42,899)
Conversion of preferred stock into							
506,930 shares of common stock	(40,000)		(6,534)			46,534	
Inrealized losses on investment							
securities available for sale, net					(10,474)		(10,474)
alance - June 30,1996	\$	40,487	93,132	870,171	(13,629)	(129,138)	\$861,023

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN ALLOWANCE FOR POSSIBLE CREDIT LOSSES (Unaudited)

Dollars in thousands	Six months end 1996	ed June 30 1995
Beginning balance Provision for possible credit losses Net charge-offs Charge-offs Recoveries	\$262,344 21,375 (20,486) 6,718	243,332 17,015 (11,625) 5,120
Total net charge-offs	(13,768)	(6,505)
Ending balance	\$269,951	253,842

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Significant accounting policies

The consolidated financial statements of First Empire State Corporation and subsidiaries ("the Company") were compiled in accordance with the accounting policies set forth on pages 42 and 43 of the Company's 1995 Annual Report. In the opinion of management, all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation have been made and were all of a normal recurring nature.

2. Stock-based compensation

During the first quarter of 1996, Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation", became effective. SFAS No. 123 establishes a fair value based method of accounting for stock-based compensation plans and encourages, but does not require, entities to adopt that method of accounting for all arrangements under which employees receive shares of stock or other equity instruments of the employer or the employer incurs liabilities to employees in amounts based on the price of the stock. However, SFAS No. 123 allows entities to continue to measure compensation cost for employee stock options or similar equity instruments using the method prescribed by Accounting Principles Board Opinion ("APBO") No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employee stock compensation arrangements in accordance with the provisions of APBO No. 25. Accordingly, SFAS No. 123 had no impact on the Company's results of operations for the three and six month periods ended June 30, 1996.

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

Overview

Net income of First Empire State Corporation ("First Empire") was \$38.7 million or \$5.36 per common share in the second quarter of 1996, increases of 23% and 19%, respectively, from \$31.5 million or \$4.51 per common share in the second quarter of 1995. On a fully diluted basis, earnings per common share rose 24% to \$5.36 from \$4.31 in the second quarter of 1995. For the six months ended June 30, 1996, net income was \$74.8 million or \$10.56 per common share earned during the comparable period of 1995. Earnings per common share on a fully diluted basis increased 29% to \$10.32 for the six months ended June 30, 1996 from \$7.99 in the first half of 1995. The rate of return on average assets for First Empire and its consolidated subsidiaries ("the Company") in the second quarter of 1996 increased to 1.25% from 1.10% in the year-earlier quarter and 1.20% in 1996's first quarter. The return on average common stockholders' equity was 18.18% in the first quarter of 1996. During the first six months of 1996, the rates of return on average assets and average common stockholders' equity were 1.22% and 17.85%, respectively, up from 1.07% and 16.10%, respectively, in the corresponding period of 1995.

On March 29, 1996, National Indemnity Company, a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway Inc., the holder of all of the outstanding shares of First Empire's 9% convertible preferred stock, converted such shares into 506,930 shares of First Empire common stock. The 40,000 shares of preferred stock had been issued on March 15, 1991 for \$40 million and were converted into shares of common stock at a contractual conversion price of \$78.90625 per share. As of June 30, 1996, common shares outstanding totaled 6,795,669, compared with 6,496,555 and 6,844,923 at June 30, 1995 and March 31, 1996, respectively.

Taxable-equivalent Net Interest Income

Taxable-equivalent net interest income increased to \$133.7 million in the second quarter of 1996, up \$13.3 million or 11% from \$120.4 million in the second quarter of 1995, and \$3.2 million higher than the \$130.5 million earned in the first quarter of 1996. Growth in average earning assets, resulting from an increase in average loans, was the most significant factor contributing to the improvement in net interest income. Average earning assets in the recent quarter increased \$936 million, or 8%, to \$12.0 billion from \$11.1 billion in the second quarter of 1995. Average earning assets totaled \$11.7 billion in the initial 1996 quarter. Average loans and leases grew \$1.3 billion, or 15%, to \$10.0 billion in the second quarter of 1996 from \$8.7 billion in the year-earlier quarter. Average loans and leases were \$9.7 billion in 1996's first quarter. The accompanying table summarizes quarterly changes in the major components of the loan and lease portfolio.

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AVERAGE LOANS AND LEASES (net of unearned discount)

(net of unearned utscould)				
Dollars in millions		Percent increase from		
	2nd Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	1st Otr.	
	1996	1995	1996	
Commercial, financial, etc.	\$2,032	13%	2%	
Real estate - commercial	3,727	8	2	
Real estate - consumer	2,119	22	5	
Consumer				
Automobile	975	45	9	
Home equity	603	3	1	
Credit cards	242	50	9	
Other	299	11	3	
Total consumer	2,119	25	6	
Total	\$9,997	15%	3%	
	======	===	===	

For the first six months of 1996, taxable-equivalent net interest income was \$264.2 million, up from \$240.0 million in the corresponding 1995 period. An increase in average loans and leases of \$1.3 billion was the leading factor contributing to this improvement.

Due, in part, to loan growth, average holdings of money-market assets in the second quarter of 1996 were decreased from both the second quarter of 1995 and the first quarter of 1996. Money-market assets averaged \$108 million in 1996's second quarter, compared with \$289 million in the year-earlier quarter and \$193 million in the initial 1996 quarter.

Average investment securities declined to \$1.9 billion in the recent quarter from \$2.1 billion in the second quarter of 1995. Holdings of investment securities averaged \$1.8 billion in 1996's first quarter. In general, the average balance of the investment securities portfolio is influenced by such factors as demand for loans, which generally yield more than investment securities, ongoing repayments, the level of deposits, and management of balance sheet size and resulting capital ratios.

Core deposits, which include noninterest-bearing demand deposits, interest-bearing transaction accounts, savings deposits and nonbrokered domestic time deposits under \$100,000, represent a significant source of funding to the Company. The Company's New York State branch network is the principal source of core deposits, which generally carry lower interest rates than wholesale funds of comparable maturities. Core deposits include certificates of deposit under \$100,000 generated on a nationwide basis by M&T Bank, National Association ("M&T Bank, N.A."), a wholly owned commercial bank subsidiary of First Empire. Average core deposits increased to \$7.9 billion in 1996's second quarter, up from \$7.3 billion in the year-earlier quarter and \$7.7 billion in the first quarter of 1996. Average core deposits of M&T Bank, N.A., which began operations in the fourth quarter of 1995, were \$226 million in the recently completed quarter, compared with \$87 million in the first quarter of 1996. The accompanying table provides an analysis of quarterly changes in the components of average core deposits.

AVERAGE CORE DEPOSITS Dollars in millions

	Percent increa (decrease) fro			
	2nd Qtr. 1996	2nd Qtr. 1995	1st Qtr. 1996	
NOW accounts	\$ 760	%	%	
Savings deposits	2,872	(3)	2	
Time deposits less than \$100,000	3, 152	22	5	
Demand deposits	1,138	9	1	
Total	\$7,922	8%	3%	
	======	===	===	

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In addition to core deposits, the Company obtains funding through domestic time deposits of \$100,000 or more, deposits originated through the Company's offshore branch office, and brokered certificates of deposit. Brokered deposits are used to reduce short-term borrowings and lengthen the average maturity of interest-bearing liabilities. Brokered deposits averaged \$999 million during the recent quarter and totaled \$1.1 billion at June 30, 1996, compared with an average balance of \$888 million during the comparable 1995 period and a total balance of \$888 million at June 30, 1995. Such deposits averaged \$830 million in the first quarter of 1996. The weighted average remaining term to maturity of brokered deposits at June 30, 1996 was 1.3 years.

In addition to deposits, the Company uses short-term borrowings from banks, securities dealers, the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York ("FHLB") and others as sources of funding. Short-term borrowings averaged \$1.2 billion in the recent quarter, compared with \$1.6 billion in the second quarter of 1995 and \$1.5 billion in the first quarter 1996.

Changes in interest rates and spreads, as well as changes in the composition of the Company's earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities, can impact net interest income. Net interest spread, or the difference between the yield on earning assets and the rate paid on interest-bearing liabilities, was 3.84% in the second quarter of 1996, compared with 3.70% in the year-earlier quarter. This improvement reflects a 23 basis point (hundredths of one percent) decrease in the cost of interest-bearing liabilities to 4.46% in the recently completed quarter from 4.69% in the second quarter of 1995. Partially offsetting this decline in the cost of interest-bearing liabilities was a 9 basis point decrease in the yield on earning assets to 8.30% in the second quarter of 1996 from 8.39% in the corresponding 1995 period. The net interest spread was 3.85% in the first quarter of 1996 when the yield on earning assets was 8.42% and the rate paid on interest-bearing liabilities was 4.57%. Largely due to the changes in the net interest spread described above, the Company's net interest margin, or taxable-equivalent net interest income expressed as an annualized percentage of average earning assets, increased to 4.46% in 1996's second quarter from 4.35% in the comparable quarter of 1995, and was down only slightly from 4.49% in the first quarter of 1996. The net interest margin was 4.48% and 4.52% during the six months ended June 30, 1996 and 1995, respectively.

The contribution to net interest margin of interest-free funds varied by three basis points or less during the periods discussed herein. Average interest-free funds, consisting largely of noninterest-bearing demand deposits and stockholders' equity, totaled \$1.7 billion in the second quarter of 1996, up from \$1.5 billion a year earlier, but relatively unchanged from 1996's initial quarter.

Management analyzes the Company's exposure to changing interest rates and spreads by projecting net interest income under a number of different interest rate scenarios. As part of the management of interest rate risk, the Company utilizes interest rate swap agreements to modify the repricing characteristics of certain portions of the loan and deposit portfolios. Revenue and expense arising from these agreements are reflected in either the yields earned on loans or, as appropriate, rates paid on interest-bearing deposits. The aggregate notional amount of interest rate swap agreements used as part of the Company's management of interest rate risk in effect at June 30, 1996 and 1995 was \$2.5 billion and \$2.6 billion, respectively. In general, under the terms of these swaps, the Company receives payments based on the outstanding notional amount of the swaps at a fixed rate of interest and makes payments at a variable rate. However, under terms of \$34 million of swaps, the Company pays a fixed rate of interest and receives a variable rate. At June 30, 1996 the weighted average rates to be received and paid under interest rate swap agreements were 6.18% and 5.38%, respectively. As of June 30, 1996, the Company had also entered into forward-starting swaps with an aggregate notional amount of \$25 million. Such forward-starting swaps had no effect on the Company's net interest income through June 30, 1996. The effect of interest rate swaps on net interest income and margin as well as average notional amounts are presented in the accompanying table.

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INTEREST RATE SWAPS Dollars in thousands

	Three months ended June 30					
	1990	6	1995			
	Amount	Rate(1)	Amount	Rate(1)		
Increase (decrease) in: Interest income Interest expense	\$ 318 (3,987)		\$(1,818) (1,338)	· · ·		
Net interest income/margin	\$ 4,305 ======	.14% ====	\$ (480) =======	(.02)% ====		
Average notional amount (2)	\$2,413,370 ========		\$2,562,949 =======			

	Six months ended June 30					
	199	6 6	1995			
	Amount	Rate(1)	Amount	Rate(1)		
Increase (decrease) in: Interest income Interest expense	\$ 279 (7.140)	% (.14)	\$(3,343) (2,414)	· · ·		
Net interest		、 ,				
income/margin	\$ 7,419	.13% ====	\$ (929) =======	(.02)% ====		
Average notional amount (2)	\$2,323,139 ========		\$2,549,616 ========			

(1) Computed as an annualized percentage of average earning assets or interest-bearing liabilities.

(2) Excludes forward-starting interest rate swaps.

The Company estimates that as of June 30, 1996 it would have to pay approximately \$10.1 million if all interest rate swap agreements entered into for interest rate risk management purposes were terminated. This estimated fair value of the interest rate swap portfolio results from the effects of changing interest rates and should be considered in the context of the entire balance sheet and the Company's overall interest rate risk profile. Changes in the estimated fair value of interest rate swaps entered into for interest rate risk management purposes are not reflected in the consolidated financial statements.

As part of its ongoing operations, the Company is also exposed to liquidity risk whenever the maturities of financial instruments included in assets and liabilities differ. Accordingly, a critical element in managing a banking institution is ensuring that sufficient cash flow and liquid assets are available to satisfy demand for loans, deposit withdrawals, operating expenses and other corporate purposes. In addition to deposits and borrowings, maturities of money-market assets, repayments of loans and investment securities, and cash generated from operations provide the Company with other sources of liquidity. Through membership in the FHLB, as well as other available borrowing facilities, management believes that First Empire's banking subsidiaries have access to adequate funding sources. First Empire's ability to pay dividends, repurchase treasury stock and fund operating expenses is primarily dependent on the receipt of dividend payments from its banking subsidiaries, which are subject to various regulatory limitations. First Empire also maintains a \$25 million line of credit with an unaffiliated commercial bank, all of which was available for borrowing at June 30, 1996. Management does not anticipate engaging in any activity, either currently or in the long-term, which would cause a significant strain on liquidity at either First Empire or its subsidiary banks. Furthermore, management believes that available sources of liquidity are more than adequate to meet anticipated funding needs.

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Provision for Possible Credit Losses

The purpose of the provision is to replenish or build the Company's allowance for possible credit losses to a level necessary to maintain an adequate reserve position. In assessing the adequacy of the allowance for possible credit losses, management performs an ongoing evaluation of the loan portfolio and other credit commitments, including such factors as the differing economic risks associated with each loan category, the current financial condition of specific borrowers, the economic environment in which borrowers operate, the level of delinquent loans and the value of any collateral. Based upon the results of such review, management believes that the allowance for possible credit losses at June 30, 1996 was adequate to absorb credit losses from existing loans, leases and credit commitments.

The provision for possible credit losses in the second quarter of 1996 was \$11.7 million, up from \$8.5 million in 1995's second quarter and \$9.7 million in the first quarter of 1996. Net loan charge-offs in the second quarter of 1996 totaled \$8.7 million, up from \$3.4 million in the year-earlier quarter and \$5.1 million in the first quarter of 1996. Consumer loan charge-offs totaled \$6.7 million in the recent quarter, compared with \$2.1 million in the second quarter of 1995 and \$5.0 million in the initial 1996 quarter. Net charge-offs as an annualized percentage of average loans and leases were .35% in the recent quarter, compared with .16% in the corresponding 1995 quarter and .21% in the first quarter of 1996. For the six months ended June 30, 1996 and 1995, the provision for possible credit losses was \$21.4 million and \$17.0 million, respectively. Through June 30, net charge-offs were \$13.8 million in 1996 and \$6.5 million in 1995, representing .28% and .15%, respectively, of average loans and leases. Consumer loan charge-offs totaled \$11.6 million and \$3.9 million during the six months ended June 30, 1996 and 1995.

Nonperforming loans were \$85.0 million or .84% of total loans and leases outstanding at June 30, 1996, compared with \$75.4 million or .85% at June 30, 1995 and \$82.6 million or .83% at March 31, 1996. The increase in nonperforming loans over the prior periods was due to the second quarter 1996 purchase from the Government National Mortgage Association of \$11.8 million of one-to-four family residential mortgage loans serviced by the Company. These loans are covered by guarantees of the Federal Housing Administration. It is anticipated that the costs of servicing these loans will be reduced as a result of the purchase. Approximately \$11.1 million of these loans have been classified as accruing loans past due ninety days or more, and \$.7 million have been classified as nonaccrual loans. Nonperforming commercial real estate loans totaled \$30.5 million at June 30, 1996, \$42.9 million at June 30, 1995 and \$33.7 million at March 31, 1996. Included in these totals were loans secured by properties located in the New York City metropolitan area of \$7.0 million at June 30, 1996, \$21.0 million at June 30, 1995 and \$10.4 million at March 31, 1996. Nonperforming consumer loans and leases totaled \$13.2 million at June 30, 1996, compared with \$9.3 million at June 30, 1995 and \$13.7 million at March 31, 1996. The increase in nonperforming consumer loans from June 30, 1995 is generally consistent with current industry trends and also reflects growth in the Company's consumer loan portfolio. Nevertheless, management continues to closely monitor repayment performance of consumer loans. Assets taken in foreclosure of defaulted loans were \$8.9 million at June 30, 1996, \$8.4 million at June 30, 1995 and \$7.5 million at March 31, 1996.

The allowance for possible credit losses was \$270.0 million, or 2.67% of total loans and leases at June 30, 1996, compared with \$253.8 million or 2.86% a year earlier, \$262.3 million or 2.75% at December 31, 1995 and \$266.9 million or 2.69% at March 31, 1996. The ratio of the allowance for possible credit losses to nonperforming loans was 318% at the most recent quarter-end, compared with 337% a year earlier, 282% at December 31, 1995 and 323% at March 31, 1996.

A comparative summary of nonperforming assets and certain credit quality ratios is presented in the accompanying table.

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	1996 Quarters		199	1995 Quarters		
	Second	First	Fourth	Third	Second	
Nonaccrual loans Loans past due	\$57,603	67,098	75,224	59,720	60,889	
90 days or more Renegotiated loans	27,406	15,513	17,842	16,516 	14,530	
Total nonperforming loans	85,009	82,611	93,066	76,236	75,419	
Other real estate owned	8,890	7,508	7,295	8,520	8,390	
Total nonperforming assets	\$93,899 =====	90,119 ======	100,361 ======	84,756 =====	83,809 =====	
Nonperforming loans to total loans and leases, net of unearned discount Nonperforming assets to total net loans and	. 84%	.83%	. 97%	. 83%	. 85%	
other real estate owned	.93% ===	.91% ===	1.05% ====	.92% ===	.94% ===	

Other Income

Other income totaled \$41.5 million in the second quarter of 1996, compared with \$33.9 million in the year-earlier quarter and \$36.3 million in the first quarter of 1996. Other income for the first six months of 1996 was \$77.7 million, up 29% from \$60.3 million in the comparable 1995 period.

Mortgage banking revenues totaled \$11.3 million in the recent quarter, up from \$7.6 million in the year-earlier quarter and \$10.4 million in the first quarter of 1996. Higher loan origination volume, improved pricing margins and two 1995 acquisitions of mortgage banking operations were significant factors contributing to the increase in mortgage banking revenue from the prior year's second quarter. Residential mortgage loan servicing fees totaled \$5.1 million in the second quarter of 1996, compared with \$5.0 million in the second quarter of 1995 and \$5.2 million in the first quarter of 1996. Gains from sales of residential mortgage loans servicing rights were \$5.7 million in the recently completed quarter, compared with \$2.2 million in the year-earlier quarter and \$4.7 million in 1996's first quarter. Residential mortgage loans serviced for others totaled \$5.6 billion and \$5.2 billion at June 30, 1996 and 1995, respectively. Capitalized mortgage servicing rights and excess servicing receivables were \$34.8 million and \$7.2 million, respectively, at June 30, 1996, compared with \$28.5 million and \$7.1 million, respectively, at June 30, 1995.

Service charges on deposit accounts totaled \$10.1 million in 1996's second quarter, up 6% from \$9.6 million in the second quarter of 1995 and slightly higher than the \$9.9 million earned in the first quarter of 1996. Trust income of \$7.1 million in the second quarter of 1996 increased 21% from \$5.8 million in last year's second quarter, and 15% from \$6.2 million in the first quarter of 1996. Merchant discount and credit card fees were \$4.2 million in the recent quarter, up from \$2.4 million and \$3.1 million in the second quarter of 1996 compared with gains of \$858 thousand in the second quarter of 1996, compared with gains of \$220 thousand in the corresponding 1995 quarter and losses of \$704 thousand in the first quarter of 1996. Other revenues from operations totaled \$7.8 million in the recent quarter, compared with \$8.3 million in the second quarter of 1995 and \$7.1 million in the first quarter of 1996. Such amounts include revenues from the sale of mutual funds and annuities totaling \$3.3 million and \$2.8 million in the second quarter of 1996. Such amounts \$2.8 million in the second quarter of 1996. Such amounts include revenues from the sale of mutual funds and annuities totaling \$2.8 million in 1996's first quarter.

For the first six months of the year, mortgage banking revenues increased to \$21.7 million from \$10.5 million in the comparable 1995 period. As previously mentioned, higher loan origination volume and the 1995

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acquisitions were major factors leading to the increase. Compared with the same period in 1995, service charges on deposit accounts increased 7% to \$20.0 million during the first six months of 1996, while trust income increased 14% to \$13.2 million and merchant discount and credit card fees increased 55% to \$7.3 million. Trading account and foreign exchange activity resulted in gains of \$154 thousand for the initial half of 1996, compared with gains of \$1.1 million in the first six months of 1995. Other revenues from operations increased 9% to \$14.9 million in the first six months of 1996 from \$13.7 million in the comparable 1995 period.

Other Expense

Other expense totaled \$97.9 million in the second quarter of 1996, compared with \$90.3 million in the second quarter of 1995 and \$96.3 million in the first quarter of 1996. Through the first six months of 1996, other expense totaled \$194.2 million or 8% higher than the \$179.8 million in the comparable 1995 period.

Salaries and employee benefits expense was \$49.1 million in the recent quarter, 11% higher than the corresponding 1995 quarter but 6% lower than the first quarter of 1996. For the first half of 1996, salaries and employee benefits expense increased 12% to \$101.3 million from \$90.4 million in the comparable 1995 period. Factors contributing to the higher expenses over the prior year periods were merit salary increases, commission compensation, and the expansion of subsidiaries providing residential mortgage banking services, indirect automobile loans and sales of mutual funds and annuities.

Nonpersonnel expenses totaled \$48.8 million in the second quarter of 1996, up \$2.7 million from the second quarter of 1995 and \$4.6 million from the first quarter of 1996. Such expenses were \$93.0 million during the first six months of 1996, up 4% from \$89.4 million during the corresponding 1995 period. The increases from the comparable 1995 periods were the result of higher expenses associated with the expansion of businesses providing mortgage banking services, indirect automobile loans, credit cards and the sale of mutual funds and annuities, as well as general expense increases, largely offset by lower deposit insurance expense. The increase in nonpersonnel expense from the first quarter of 1996 was due, in part, to the credit card business expansion.

The decline in deposit insurance expense in 1996 compared with the prior year reflects the substantial elimination by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") as of January 1, 1996 of deposit insurance premiums payable to the Bank Insurance Fund ("BIF") by the strongest BIF-insured institutions. Although First Empire's banking subsidiaries are BIF-insured institutions, the Company has approximately \$1.4 billion of deposits obtained in so-called "Oakar" acquisitions for which deposit insurance premiums are paid to the Savings Association Insurance Fund ("SAIF") of the FDIC. Unlike BIF-insured deposits the FDIC has not reduced its assessment rates for SAIF-insured deposits, which currently range between \$.23 and \$.31 per \$100 of assessable deposits. Furthermore, the U.S. Congress and the executive branch of the Federal government have considered and continue to study various proposals to recapitalize the SAIF. Many of these proposals have contemplated special assessments on thrifts and banks, and recent proposals have called for the participation of additional parties. Congress previously passed a SAIF recapitalization plan that would have required a one-time special assessment on the Oakar deposits of thrifts and banks, but the legislation was vetoed after being attached to a balanced budget bill. Although it is not possible at this time to predict the form or timing of any legislation that may be enacted to recapitalize the SAIF, management believes that some form of legislation will ultimately be passed that includes an assessment of the Oakar deposits of BIF-insured institutions.

Capital

Total stockholders' equity at June 30, 1996 was \$861.0 million or 6.86% of total assets, compared with \$794.0 million or 6.83% of total assets a year

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earlier and \$846.3 million or 7.08% of total assets at December 31, 1995. Common stockholders' equity also totaled \$861.0 million at June 30, 1996, up from \$754.0 million a year earlier and \$806.3 million at December 31, 1995. As previously noted, all shares of the Company's 9% convertible preferred stock were converted on March 29, 1996 into 506,930 shares of common stock at a conversion price of \$78.90625 per share. On a per share basis, common stockholders' equity was \$126.70 at June 30, 1996, compared with \$116.05 at June 30, 1995 and \$125.33 at December 31, 1995.

Stockholders' equity at June 30, 1996 reflected a reduction of \$13.6 million, or \$2.01 per common share, for the net after-tax impact of unrealized losses on investment securities classified as available for sale, compared with reductions of \$6.4 million or \$.99 per common share at June 30, 1995 and \$3.2 million or \$.49 per common share at December 31, 1995. Such unrealized losses represent the amount by which amortized cost exceeded the fair value of investment securities classified as available for sale, net of applicable income taxes. The market valuation of investment securities should be considered in the context of the entire balance sheet of the Company. With the exception of investment securities, and residential mortgage loans held for sale, the carrying values of financial instruments in the balance sheet are generally not adjusted for appreciation or depreciation in market value resulting from changes in interest rates.

Federal regulators generally require banking institutions to maintain "core capital" and "total capital" ratios of at least 4% and 8%, respectively, of total risk-adjusted assets. In addition to the risk-based measures, Federal bank regulators have also implemented a minimum "leverage" ratio guideline of 3% of the quarterly average of total assets. Under regulatory guidelines, unrealized gains or losses on investment securities classified as available for sale are not recognized in determining regulatory capital. The capital ratios of the Company and its banking subsidiaries, Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company ("M&T Bank"), The East New York Savings Bank ("East New York") and M&T Bank, N.A., as of June 30, 1996 are presented in the accompanying table.

REGULATORY CAPITAL RATIOS June 30, 1996

	First Empire	M&T	East	M&T
	(Consolidated)	Bank	New York	Bank, N.A.
Core capital	8.45%	7.57%	11.57%	10.34%
Total capital	11.46%	10.85%	12.83%	11.61%
Leverage	6.82%	6.17%	7.19%	9.66%

The Company has historically maintained capital ratios well in excess of minimum regulatory guidelines largely through a high rate of internal capital generation. The rate of internal capital generation, or net income less dividends paid expressed as an annualized percentage of average total stockholders' equity, was 15.93% and 15.27% during the three and six month periods ended June 30, 1996, respectively, compared with 13.95% and 13.14% during the comparable periods of 1995.

In November 1995, First Empire announced a plan to repurchase and hold as treasury stock up to 380,582 shares of common stock for reissuance upon the possible future exercise of outstanding stock options. As of June 30, 1996, First Empire had repurchased 200,983 common shares pursuant to such plan at an average cost of \$229.54 per share.

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FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES								
or the period								
	Net income	\$38,659	31,454	+ 23%	\$74,812	58,622	+ 28	
	Per common share							
	Net income	*- - - -			\$10 50			
	Primary Fully diluted	\$5.36 5.36	4.51 4.31	+ 19 + 24	\$10.56 10.32	8.36 7.99	+ 26 + 29	
	Cash dividends	5.36	4.31	+ 24 + 17		1.20	+ 29	
	Average common shares outstanding	.70	.00	+ 17	1.40	1.20	τ <u>1</u>	
	Primary	7,212	6,768	+ 7	6,995	6,794	+ ;	
	Fully diluted	7,212	7,293			7,338	- 1	
	Annualized return on	.,==0	.,200	-	.,2.0	.,	-	
	Average total assets	1.25%	1.10%		1.22%	1.07%		
	Average common stockholders' equity		16.87%		17.85%	16.10%		
	Market price per common share							
	Closing	\$241.00	171.50	+ 41	\$241.00	171.50	+ 41	
	High	247.00	172.50		247.75	172.50		
	Low	232.00	159.00		209.00	136.50		
t June 30								
	Loans and leases,							
		\$10,129,170		+ 14%				
		12,542,357		+ 8				
		10,192,683		+ 15				
			793,958	+ 8				
	Stockholders' equity per common share	\$126.70	116.05	+ 9				

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FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

AVERAGE BALANCE SHEETS AND ANNUALIZED TAXABLE-EQUIVALENT RATES

Average balance in millions; interest in thousands	Average	Second Qua Interest	arter Average rate	Average	First Qua Interest	rter Average rate	1995 F Average balance	Fourth Quart A Interest	ter Average rate
Assets Earning assets Loans and leases, net of									
unearned discount* Commercial, financial, etc. Real estate Consumer	\$ 2,032 5,846 2,119	\$ 41,682 126,747 49,160	8.25% 8.67 9.33	1,995 5,672 2,005	40,538 124,924 48,285	8.17% 8.81 9.68	1,900 5,562 1,922	40,747 123,158 46,222	8.51% 8.86 9.54
Total loans and leases, net	9,997	217,589	8.75	9,672	213,747	8.89	9,384	210,127	8.88
Money-market assets Interest-bearing deposits at banks Federal funds sold and agreements	18	266	6.14	62	1,031	6.68	126	2,331	7.37
to resell securities Trading account	58 32	779 264	5.38 3.33	102 29	1,403 306	5.53 4.34	26 20	391 175	5.93 3.43
Total money-market assets	108	1,309	4.89	193	2,740	5.73	172	2,897	6.68
Investment securities** U.S. Treasury and federal agencies Obligations of states and political	1,324	20,248	6.15	1,173	17,987	6.17	1,192	18,387	6.12
subdivisions Other	41 574	668 8,859	6.50 6.21	36 621	617 9,623	6.85 6.23	40 666	698 10,595	7.00 6.31
Total investment securities	1,939	29,775	6.17	1,830	28,227	6.20	1,898	29,680	6.20
Total earning assets	12,044	248,673	8.30	11,695	244,714	8.42	11,454	242,704	8.41
Allowance for possible credit losses Cash and due from banks Other assets	(269) 331 380			(266) 335 377			(263) 339 368		
Total assets	\$12,486			12,141			11,898		
Liabilities and stockholders' equity Interest-bearing liabilities Interest-bearing deposits NOW accounts Savings deposits	\$ 760 2,872	2,642 20,673	1.40 2.90	759 2,803	2,773 20,521	1.47 2.94	767 2,831	3,060 21,610	1.58 3.03
Time deposits Deposits at foreign office	5,026 273	68,920 3,534	5.51 5.20	4,642 166	65,456 2,129	5.67 5.16	4,541 136	67,358 1,815	5.88 5.31
Total interest-bearing deposits	8,931	95,769	4.31	8,370	90,879	4.37	8,275	93,843	4.50
Short-term borrowings Long-term borrowings	1,243 190	15,657 3,570	5.07 7.55	1,484 192	19,689 3,617	5.34 7.57	1,305 196	19,216 3,667	5.84 7.43
Total interest-bearing liabilities	10,364	114,996	4.46	10,046	114,185	4.57	9,776	116,726	4.74
Demand deposits Other liabilities	1,138 129			1,126 120			1,148 149		
Total liabilities	11,631			11,292			11,073		
Stockholders' equity	855			849			825		
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$12,486			12,141			11,898		
Net interest spread Contribution of interest-free funds			3.84 .62			3.85 .64			3.67 .69
Net interest income/margin on earning assets		\$133,677	4.46%		130,529	4.49%		125,978	4.36%

*Includes nonaccrual loans. **Includes available for sale securities at amortized cost.

	199	95 Third Quart	er	199	5 Second Quart	ter
Average balance in millions; interest in thousands	Average balance	Interest	Average rate	Average balance	Interest	Average rate
Assets						
Earning assets Loans and leases, net of unearned discount*						
Commercial, financial, etc.	\$ 1,838	\$ 39,821	8.59%	1,805	39,410	8.76
Real estate Consumer	5,401 1,799	120,430 44,029	8.92 9.71	5,187 1,690	116,067 41,110	8.95 9.75
Total loans and leases, net	9,038	204,280	8.97	8,682	196,587	9.08
Money-market assets Interest-bearing deposits at banks	126	2,331	7.37	121	2,225	7.39
Federal funds sold and agreements		2,002			_/0	
to resell securities	12	189	6.05	139	2,227	6.44
Trading account	49	600	4.90	29	371	5.02
Total money-market assets	187	3,120	6.64	289	4,823	6.69
Investment securities**						
U.S. Treasury and federal agencies Obligations of states and political subdivisions	1,336 46	20,532 809	6.10 6.96	1,340 57	19,658 965	5.88 6.84
Other	797	12,633	6.29	740	10,435	5.65
Total investment securities	2,179	33,974	6.18	2,137	31,058	5.83
Total earning assets	11,404	241,374	8.40	11,108	232,468	8.39
Allowance for possible credit losses	(256)			(251)		
Cash and due from banks	336			317		
Other assets	364			332		
Total assets	\$11,848			11,506		
Liabilities and stockholders' equity						
Interest-bearing liabilities						
Interest-bearing deposits NOW accounts	\$ 784	3,129	1.58	760	2,948	1.55
Savings deposits	2,869	21,770	3.01	2,950	21,920	2.98
Time deposits	4,119	60,943	5.87	4,075	60,008	5.91
Deposits at foreign office	96	1,297	5.36	117	1,504	5.16
Total interest-bearing deposits	7,868	87,139	4.39	7,902	86,380	4.38
- Short-term borrowings	1,719	25,559	5.90	1,588	23,787	6.01
Long-term borrowings	194	3,631	7.42	96	1,929	8.04
Total interest-bearing liabilities	9,781	116,329	4.72	9,586	112,096	4.69
Demand deposits	1,143			1,043		
Other liabilities	123			111		
Total liabilities	11,047			10,740		
Stockholders' equity	801			766		
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$11,848			11,506		
Net interest spread			3.68			3.70
Contribution of interest free funds			67			5.70

.67

4.35%

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\$125,045

.65 _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

4.35%

- - - - - - - - - -

120,372

FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Contribution of interest-free funds

Net interest income/margin on earning assets

*Includes nonaccrual loans. **Includes available for sale securities at amortized cost.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings.

A number of lawsuits were pending against First Empire and its subsidiaries at June 30, 1996. In the opinion of management, the potential liabilities, if any, arising from such litigation will not have a materially adverse impact on the Company's consolidated financial condition. Moreover, management believes that First Empire and its subsidiaries have substantial defenses in such litigation, but that there can be no assurance that the potential liabilities, if any, arising from such litigation will not have a materially adverse impact on the Company's consolidated results of operations in the future.

- Item 2. Changes in Securities. (Not applicable.)
- Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities. (Not applicable.)

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

Information concerning the matters submitted to a vote of stockholders at First Empire's Annual Meeting of Stockholders held on April 16, 1996 was previously reported in response to Item 4 of Part II of First Empire's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 1996.

Item 5. Other Information.

On June 6, 1996, Robert E. Sadler, Jr., an Executive Vice President of First Empire, was promoted to President of M&T Bank, First Empire's principal banking subsidiary. In his new position, Mr. Sadler will be responsible for the banking activities of each of First Empire's bank subsidiaries. Mr. Sadler was also elected a director of M&T Bank on July 16, 1996.

Also on June 6, 1996, M&T Bank promoted John L. Pett to the position of Executive Vice President of M&T Bank, and Michael P. Pinto was promoted to the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of M&T Bank. Mr. Pett is Senior Vice President and Chief Credit Officer of First Empire, and he will continue as the Chief Credit Officer of M&T Bank. Mr. Pinto is also Senior Vice President and Controller of First Empire. Mr. Pinto replaces James L. Vardon as Chief Financial Officer of M&T Bank, who retired from First Empire and its subsidiaries on July 21, 1996.

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

- (a) The following exhibits are filed as a part of this report:
 - Exhibit No.

- 11 Statement re: Computation of Earnings Per Common Share. Filed herewith.
- 27 Financial Data Schedule. Filed herewith.
- (b) Reports on Form 8-K.

On April 3, 1996, First Empire filed a Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 29, 1996, in order to report that the National Indemnity Company, a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway Inc., the former holder of all of the outstanding shares of First Empire's 9% convertible preferred stock, had converted those shares into 506,930 shares of First Empire common stock, par value \$5.00 per share, as of the close of business on March 29, 1996.

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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.

FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION

Date: August 12, 1996

By: /s/ Michael P. Pinto

Michael P. Pinto Senior Vice President and Controller

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit

No.

- 11 Statement re: Computation of Earnings Per Common Share. Filed herewith.
- 27 Financial Data Schedule. Filed herewith.

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FIRST EMPIRE STATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES									
	EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE sands, except per share	Three months ended June 30		Six months ended June 30					
		1996	1995	1996	1995				
Primary	Average common shares outstanding Common stock equivalents *	6,832 380	6,506 262	6,616 379	6,547 247				
	Primary common shares outstanding	7,212	6,768	6,995	6,794				
	Net income Less: Cash dividends on preferred stock	\$38,659 0	31,454 900	74,812 900	58,622 1,800				
	Net income available to common shareholders	\$38,659	30,554	73,912	56,822				
	Earnings per common share - primary	\$ 5.36	4.51	10.56	8.36				
Fully diluted	Average common shares outstanding Common stock equivalents* Assumed conversion of 9% convertible	6,832 384	6,506 280	6,616 384	6,54 284				
	preferred stock	0	507	245	507				
	Fully diluted average common shares outstanding	7,216	7,293	7,245	7,338				
	Net income	\$38,659	31,454	74,812	58,622				
	Earnings per common share - fully diluted	\$ 5.36	4.31	10.32	7.99				

* Represents shares of First Empire's common stock issuable upon the assumed exercise of outstanding stock options granted pursuant to the First Empire State Corporation 1983 Stock Option Plan under the "treasury stock" method of accounting.

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Article 9 Financial Data Schedule for Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 1996

1000 6-M0S DEC-31-1996 JUN-30-1996 376,309 14,451 23,136 31,481 1,565,853 251,198 , 251,758 10,487,452 269,951 12,542,357 10,192,683 1,134,291 164,138 190,222 0 0 40,487 820,536 12,542,357 217,042 29,284 1,045 247,603 95,769 114,996 132,607 11,700 109 97,921 64,449 38,659 0 0 38,659 5.36 5.36 4.46 57,603 27,406 Θ 0 262,344 20,486 6,718 269,951 135,653 0 134,298