SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549
[x] QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Quarterly Period Ended November 30, 1996
OR
[ ] TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Transition Period from $\qquad$ to $\qquad$

Commission file number 1-11727
HERITAGE PROPANE PARTNERS, L.P.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

## 73-1493906

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

8801 SOUTH YALE AVENUE, SUITE 310
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74137
(Address of principal
executive offices and zip code)
(918) 492-7272
(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.

No

At January 10, 1997, the registrant had units outstanding as follows:
Heritage Propane Partners, L.P.
4,285,000 Common Units
3,702,943 Subordinated Units
heritage propane partners, L.P.
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ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
HERITAGE PROPANE PARTNERS, L.P. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AND UNIT DATA)


CURRENT ASSETS:

| Cash |  | \$ 1,987 |  | \$1,170 | \$ | 1,329 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Accounts receivable, net |  | 23,985 |  | 10,859 |  | 15,412 |
| Inventories |  | 12,600 |  | 11,115 |  | 10,399 |
| Prepaid expenses |  | 1,373 |  | 870 |  | 1,591 |
| Deferred income taxes |  | --- |  | --- |  | 1,483 |
| Total current assets |  | 39,945 |  | 24,014 |  | 30,214 |
| PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, net |  | 110,982 |  | 110,342 |  | 101,094 |
| INVESTMENT IN AFFILIATES |  | 4,927 |  | 4,882 |  | 4,823 |
| INTANGIBLES AND OTHER ASSETS, net |  | 48,153 |  | 48,612 |  | 40,497 |
| Total assets | \$ | 204,007 | \$ | 187,850 | \$ | 176,628 |

## LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' CAPITAL

CURRENT LIABILITIES:
Working capital facilities
Accounts payable
Accrued and other current liabilities
Current maturities of long-term debt
Total current liabilities
LONG-TERM DEBT
DEFERRED INCOME TAXES
$\quad$ Total liabilities
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES
5\% CUMULATIVE REDEEMABLE PREFERRED STOCK, \$. 01 par value,
19,262 shares authorized, 9,487 issued

| \$ | 10,600 | \$ | 5,600 | \$ | 11,000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 23,326 |  | 13,155 |  | 13,817 |
|  | 9,730 |  | 5,730 |  | 8,918 |
|  | 254 |  | 243 |  | 19,058 |
|  | 43,910 |  | 24,728 |  | 52,793 |
|  | 132,598 |  | 132,521 |  | 99,633 |
|  | --- |  | --- |  | 19,326 |
|  | 176,508 |  | 157,249 |  | 171, 752 |

19,262 shares authorized, 9,487 issued $\qquad$ 12,488
PARTNERS' CAPITAL:
Common unit holders (4,285,000 units outstanding)
Subordinated unit holders (3,702,943 units outstanding)
General Partner
Total partners' capital

| 14,759 | 16,392 |
| ---: | ---: |
| 12,493 | 13,902 |
| 247 | 307 |
| ---------------1 |  |


the accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated balance sheets.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT UNIT DATA)
(UNAUDITED)


THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THESE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS 

(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)
(UNAUDITED)
For the Three Months Ended
November 30,
1996

| \$ | (95) | \$ | (699) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2,471 |  | 2,381 |
|  | 114 |  | 36 |
|  | (132) |  | (57) |
|  | --- |  | 24 |
|  | (45) |  | (82) |
|  | $(13,235)$ |  | $(7,363)$ |
|  | $(1,485)$ |  | (268) |
|  | (502) |  | (756) |
|  | (32) |  | (333) |
|  | 6,761 |  | 2,268 |
|  | 3,998 |  | 3,448 |
|  | $(2,182)$ |  | $(1,401)$ |
|  | (366) |  | $(4,150)$ |
|  | $(2,193)$ |  | $(2,091)$ |
|  | 248 |  | 76 |
|  | $(2,311)$ |  | $(6,165)$ |
|  | 15,844 |  | 16,964 |
|  | $(7,528)$ |  | $(9,521)$ |
|  | $(2,878)$ |  | --- |
|  | (128) |  | --- |
|  | --- |  | 59 |
|  | --- |  | 170 |
|  | --- |  | (14) |
|  | 5,310 |  | 7,658 |
|  | 817 |  | 92 |
|  | 1,170 |  | 1,237 |
| \$ | 1,987 | \$ | 1,329 |
| \$ | 182 | \$ | 40 |
|  | --- |  | 150 |

the accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated statements.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 1. GENERAL:

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared by Heritage Propane Partners, L.P. (the Company) and should be read in conjunction with the Company's consolidated financial statements as of August 31, 1996 and the notes thereto included in the Company's consolidated financial statements included in Form $10-\mathrm{K}$ as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The foregoing financial statements include only normal recurring accruals and all adjustments which the Company considers necessary for a fair presentation.

## 2. DETAILS TO CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS:

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost or market. The cost of fuel inventories is determined using average cost while the cost of appliances, parts and fittings is determined by the first-in, first-out method. Inventories consist of the following:
Fuel
Appliances, parts and fittings

| $\begin{gathered} \text { NOV. } 30, \\ 1996 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { AUG. 31, } \\ 1996 \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (UNAUDITED) |  |  |
| \$ 9,511 | \$ | 7,735 |
| 3, 089 |  | 3,380 |
| \$ 12,600 | \$ | 11,115 |


| $\begin{gathered} \text { NOV. } 30, \\ 1995 \end{gathered}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| (UNAUDITED) |  |
| (PREDECESSOR) |  |
| \$ | 7,244 |
|  | 3,155 |
| \$ | 10,399 |

## 3. LOSS PER LIMITED PARTNER UNIT:

Loss per limited partner unit is computed by dividing net loss, after considering the General Partner's one percent interest, by the weighted average number of Common and Subordinated Units outstanding.
4. CASH DISTRIBUTIONS:

A cash distribution of $\$ 2,820$, or $\$ .353$ per Common and Subordinated unit, was paid on October 15, 1996 to Unitholders of record on October 1, 1996 and \$58 was distributed to the General Partner.

## ANALYSIS OF UNAUDITED HISTORICAL RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

On June 28, 1996, Heritage Propane Partners, L.P. (the Partnership) acquired certain assets of Heritage Holdings, Inc. (the Company) and completed an initial public offering. The following discussion reflects for the periods indicated the results of operations and operating data for the Partnership and its predecessor, the Company. During fiscal year 1996, the Company consummated eight acquisitions which affect the comparability of prior period financial results as they are included in all three months of the quarter ending November 30, 1996, yet for the most part were not included in the same period a year ago. Amounts discussed below reflect $100 \%$ of the results of operations of M-P Oils Partnership, a general partnership in which the Company owns a $60 \%$ interest. Because M-P Oils Partnership is primarily engaged in lower-margin wholesale propane distribution, its contribution to the Partnership's net income and EBITDA is not significant.

Three Months Ended November 30, 1996 Compared to Three Months Ended November 30, 1995.

Volume. During the three months ended November 30, 1996, the Company sold 31.5 million retail gallons, an increase of 5.4 million retail gallons or $20.7 \%$ from the 26.1 million retail gallons sold in the three months ended November 30, 1995. This increase was primarily attributable both to the effect of acquisitions and internal growth and, to a lesser extent, colder weather.

The Company also sold approximately 30.0 million wholesale gallons in the three months ended November 30, 1996, a 2.2 million gallon or $7.9 \%$ increase from the 27.8 million wholesale gallons sold in the prior year three-month period. The increase in wholesale volumes was largely attributable to increased wholesale volumes in the United States.

Revenues. Total revenues increased $\$ 14.7$ million or $40.9 \%$ to $\$ 50.6$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to $\$ 35.9$ million for the prior year three-month period. Domestic revenues increased $\$ 10.4$ million or $37.7 \%$ to $\$ 38.0$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to $\$ 27.6$ million for the three-month period ended November 30, 1995. Foreign revenues increased $\$ 4.3$ million or $51.8 \%$ to $\$ 12.6$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to $\$ 8.3$ million for the three-month period ended November 30, 1995. The increase in foreign revenues was attributable entirely to increased selling prices where as the increased domestic revenues were due in equal parts from higher selling prices and greater volumes.

Cost of Sales. Total cost of sales increased $\$ 12.7$ million or $58.3 \%$ to $\$ 34.5$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to $\$ 21.8$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1995. Domestic costs of sales increased $\$ 8.5$ million or $61.6 \%$ to $\$ 22.3$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to $\$ 13.8$ million for the three-month period ended November 30, 1995. Foreign cost of sales increased $\$ 4.2$ million or $52.5 \%$ to $\$ 12.2$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to $\$ 8.0$ million for the three-month period ended November 30, 1995. The increase was primarily attributable to higher propane costs and increased volumes sold.

Gross Profit. Gross profit increased $\$ 2.0$ million or $14.2 \%$ to $\$ 16.1$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to \$14.1 million for the prior year three-month period. This increase was attributable to an increase in volumes sold, partially offset by a margin decline caused primarily by an increase in propane costs from suppliers.

Operating Expenses. Operating expenses increased $\$ 1.4$ million or $16.9 \%$ to $\$ 9.7$ million in the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to $\$ 8.3$ million in the three months ended November 30, 1995. The entire amount of this increase was attributable to increased volumes.

Selling, General and Administrative. Selling, general and administrative expenses were $\$ 1.2$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996, an increase from \$1.0 million for the prior year three-month period. This increase resulted from costs associated with being a public entity and a master limited partnership.

Depreciation and Amortization. Depreciation and amortization increased approximately $\$ .2$ million or $8.3 \%$ to $\$ 2.6$ million in the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to $\$ 2.4$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1995. This increase was the result of additional depreciation associated with acquisitions.

Operating Income. Operating income increased \$.2 million or 8.0\% to $\$ 2.7$ million for the three months ended November 30,1996 , as compared to $\$ 2.5$ million for the prior year three-month period. This increase was due primarily to increased volumes, partially offset by a decline in margins.

Net Loss. The Partnership's net loss was approximately $\$ .1$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996 and $\$ .7$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1995, as a result of higher operating income and lower interest expense for the three months ended November 30, 1996.

EBITDA. EBITDA increased $\$ .6$ million or $12.2 \%$ to $\$ 5.5$ million in the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to $\$ 4.9$ million for the prior year three-month period. This increase was due to an increase in volumes attributable to acquisitions, favorable weather conditions and internal growth, partially offset by a decrease in gross margins.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

## Cash Flows

Cash used by operating activities during the three months ended November 30, 1996 was $\$ 2.2$ million compared with $\$ 1.4$ million during the three months ended November 30, 1995. The cash flows from operations before changes in working capital actually increased during the three months ended November 30, 1996 but were offset by increases in accounts receivable and inventory resulting from higher supplier propane prices.

Cash used in investing activities during the three months ended November 30, 1996 included capital expenditures for acquisitions amounting to $\$ .4$ million. An additional $\$ 2.2$ million was spent for remaining maintenance needed to sustain operations at current levels, new customer tanks to support growth of operations and other miscellaneous capitalized items.

Cash provided by financing activities during the three months ended November 30, 1996 of $\$ 5.3$ million primarily reflects net borrowings under the credit facilities available to the Company.

Financing and Sources of Liquidity
In June 1996, the Partnership entered into a Bank Credit Facility, which includes a Working Capital Facility, a revolving credit facility providing for up to $\$ 15.0$ million of borrowings to be used for working capital and other general partnership purposes, and an Acquisition Facility, a revolving credit facility providing for up to $\$ 25.0$ million of borrowings to be used for acquisitions and improvements.

The Partnership uses almost all of its cash provided by operating and financing activities to fund acquisition, maintenance and growth capital expenditures. Acquisition capital expenditures, which include expenditures related to the acquisition of retail propane operations and a portion of the purchase price allocated to intangibles associated with such acquired businesses, were $\$ .4$ million for the three months ended November 30, 1996, as compared to \$4.2 million during the three months ended November 30, 1995.

The assets utilized in the propane business do not typically require lengthy manufacturing process time nor complicated, high technology components. Accordingly, the Partnership does not have any significant financial commitments for capital expenditures. In addition, the Partnership has not experienced any significant increases attributable to inflation in the cost of these assets.

The ability of the Partnership to satisfy its obligations will depend on its future performance, which will be subject to prevailing economic, financial, business and weather conditions and other factors, many of which are beyond its control. Future capital needs of the Partnership are expected to be provided by future operations, existing cash balances and the Working Capital Facility. The Partnership may incur additional indebtedness or issue additional Units in order to fund possible future acquisitions.

PART II -- OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS OF FORM 8-K
(a) The following exhibits are filed as part of this Report. Exhibits required by Item 601 of Regulation S-K, but which are not listed below, are not applicable.

Exhibit
Number Description
10.1* Bank Credit Facility ("BCF")
10.1.1* Amendment of BCF dated as of July 9, 1996.
10.2* Note Purchase Agreement ("NPA")
10.2.1* Amendment of NPA dated as of July 25, 1996.
27.1 Financial Data Schedule - Filed with EDGAR version only

* Filed previously
(b) No reports on Form 8-K have been filed by the registrant for the quarter for which this report is filed.

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.

HERITAGE PROPANE PARTNERS, L.P.
By: Heritage Holdings, Inc., General Partner

By: /s/ H. Michael Krimbill
H. Michael Krimbill
(Chief Accounting Officer and
officer duly authorized to sign on behalf of the registrant)

Exhibit

## Number

-----------------
10.1* Bank Credit Facility ("BCF")
10.1.1*
10.2*
10.2.1*
27.1

Amendment of BCF dated as of July 9, 1996.
Note Purchase Agreement ("NPA")
Amendment of NPA dated as of July 25, 1996.
Financial Data Schedule - Filed with EDGAR version only

3-MOS
AUG-31-1997
SEP-01-1996
NOV-30-1996
1,987
24,300
315
12,600
39,945
22, 392
204, 007
43,910

$$
132,598
$$ 27,499

0
${ }^{0}{ }_{0}$
204,007


