ADAMS EXPRESS CO Form N-Q May 25, 2005

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

FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number: 811-00248

THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

7 Saint Paul Street, Suite 1140, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Lawrence L. Hooper, Jr.
The Adams Express Company
7 Saint Paul Street
Suite 1140
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 410-752-5900

Date of fiscal year end: December 31, 2005

Date of reporting period: March 31, 2005

Item 1: SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

March 31, 2005 (unaudited)

Prin. Amt. or Shares Value (A)

Stocks and Convertible Securities -- 97.7% Consumer -- 16.2% Consumer Discretionary -- 7.5%

BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc. (B) Brinker International Inc. (B) Clear Channel Communications	500,000 400,000	\$ 15,530,000 14,488,000
Inc.	325,000	11,202,750
Comcast Corp. (B)	325,000	10,978,500
Gannett Co., Inc.	87,500	6,919,500
Newell Rubbermaid Inc.	515,000	11,299,100
Ryland Group Inc.	20,000	1,240,400
Target Corp.	460,000	23,009,200
		94,667,450
Consumer Staples 8.7%		
Bunge Ltd.	170,000	9,159,600
Coca-Cola Co.	200,000	8,334,000
Dean Foods Co. (B)	506,600	17,376,380
Del Monte Foods Co. (B) PepsiCo, Inc.	1,035,000 440,000	11,229,750 23,333,200
Procter & Gamble Co.	340,000	18,020,000
Safeway, Inc. (B)	423,000	7,838,190
Unilever plc ADR	345,000	13,800,000
		109,091,120
Energy 10.5%		
BP plc ADR	270,000	16,848,000
ConocoPhillips	190,000	20,489,600
Exxon Mobil Corp. Murphy Oil Corp.	130,000 160,300	7,748,000 15,826,419
Petroleum & Resources	100,300	13,020,413
Corporation (D)	1,985,996	57,256,265
Schlumberger Ltd. (C)	190,000	13,391,200
		131,559,484
Financials 16.4%		
Banking 11.7%	E00 000	22 050 000
Bank of America Corp. BankAtlantic Bancorp Inc.	500,000 220,000	22,050,000 3,828,000
Compass Bancshares Inc.	300,000	13,620,000
Fifth Third Bancorp Investors Financial Services	200,000	8,596,000
Corp.	380,000	18,585,800
North Fork Bancorporation, Inc.	450,000	12,483,000
Provident Bankshares Corp.	335,021	11,042,292
Wachovia Corp.	370,000	18,836,700
Wells Fargo & Co.	400,000	23,920,000
Wilmington Trust Corp.	420,000	14,742,000
		147,703,792
Insurance 4.7%		
AMBAC Financial Group, Inc.	380,000	28,405,000
American International Group,		•
Inc.	550,000	30,475,500
		58,880,500

	or Shares	Value (A)
Health Care 12.9%		
Abbott Laboratories	350,000	\$ 16,317,000
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	345,000	8,783,700
Enzon Pharmaceuticals, Inc.		
(B)	67 , 088	683 , 627
Genentech, Inc. (B)	250,000	14,152,500
HCA Inc.	345,000	18,481,650
Johnson & Johnson	265 , 000	17,797,400
Laboratory Corp. of America		
Holdings (B)	240,000	11,568,000
MedImmune, Inc. (B)	225,000	5,357,250
Medtronic Inc.	310,000	15,794,500
Pfizer Inc.	1,120,000	29,422,400
Wyeth Co.	325,000	13,708,500
Zimmer Holdings Inc. (B)	125,000	9,726,250
		161,792,777
Industrials 11.8%		
Canadian National Railway		
Co.	135,000	8,546,850
Cintas Corp.	300,000	12,393,000
Donnelley (R.R.) & Sons Co.	300,000	9,486,000
Emerson Electric Co.	200,000	12,986,000
General Electric Co.	1,487,700	53,646,462
Illinois Tool Works Inc.	125,000	11,191,250
3M Co.	160,000	13,710,400
United Parcel Service, Inc.	145,000	10,547,300
United Technologies Corp.	155,000	15,757,300
		148,264,562

8

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

March 31, 2005 (unaudited)

	Prin. Amt. or Shares	Value (A)
Information Technology 13.5% Communication Equipment 2.2% Avaya Inc. (B) Corning Inc. (B) Lucent Technologies Inc. (B)	600,000 1,170,000 2,900,000	\$ 7,008,000 13,022,100 7,975,000
		28,005,100

Computer Related 9.4%		
Automatic Data Processing Inc.	225,000	10,113,750
BEA Systems Inc. (B)	800,000	6,376,000
Cisco Systems, Inc. (B)	1,200,000	21,468,000
Dell Inc. (B)	400,000	15,368,000
DiamondCluster International		
Inc. (B)	497,500	8,009,750
Microsoft Corp.	800,000	19,336,000
Oracle Corp. (B)	880,000	10,982,400
Sapient Corp. (B)	1,150,000	8,446,750
Siebel Systems Inc. (B)	800,000	7,304,000
Sun Microsystems Inc. (B)	410,000	1,656,400
Symantec Corp. (B)	400,000	8,532,000
-		
		117,593,050
Electronics 1.9%		
Cree, Inc. (B)	500,000	10,875,000
Intel Corp.	310,000	7,201,300
Solectron Corp. (B)	1,850,000	
-		
		24,495,800

_	Prin. Amt. or Shares	Value (A)
Materials 5.9%		
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.	250,000	\$ 15,822,500
du Pont (E.I.) de Nemours and Co.	400,000	20,496,000
Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	141,600	7,918,272
Rohm & Haas Co.	400,000	19,200,000
Smurfit-Stone Container Corp. (B)	650,000	10,055,500
Corp. (B)	630,000	10,055,500
		73,492,272
Telecom Services 4.1%		
Alltel Corp.	350,000	19,197,500
BellSouth Corp.	200,000	5,258,000
SBC Communications Inc.	595,000	14,095,550
Vodafone Group plc	400 610	12 002 001
ADS	492,613	13,083,801
		51,634,851
Utilities 6.4%		
Aqua America, Inc.	900,000	21,915,000
Black Hills Corp.	245,000	8,102,150
CINergy Corp.	300,000	12,156,000
Duke Energy Corp.	611,560	17,129,796
Keyspan Corp.	140,000	5,455,800
MDU Resources Group, Inc.	575,000	15,881,500
		80,640,246

Total Stocks and Convertible Securities

(Cost \$929,775,150) (D)

\$1,227,821,004 _____

9

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

March 31, 2005 (unaudited)

Prin. Amt. Value (A) Short-Term Investments -- 1.8% U.S. Government Obligations -- 1.4% U.S. Treasury Bills, 2.50%, due 5/19/05 \$17,500,000 \$17,441,667 Commercial Paper -- 0.4% AIG Funding Inc., 2.77%, due 4/7/05 2,000,000 1,999,076 General Electric Capital Corp., 2.73%, due 4/5/05 2,525,000 2,524,234 4,523,310 Total Short-Term Investments (Cost \$21,964,977) \$21,964,977 _____

Value (A)

Total Investments -- 99.5% (Cost \$951,740,127) \$1,249,785,981 Cash, receivables and other assets, less liabilities -- 0.5% 6,635,349 _____

\$1,256,421,330 _____

Net Assets -- 100.0%

(A) See note 1 to financial statements. Securities are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ.

- (B) Presently non-dividend paying.
- (C) Non-controlled affiliate, a closed-end sector fund, registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- (D) The aggregate market value of stocks held in escrow at March 31, 2005 covering open call option contracts written was \$21,492,530. In addition, the aggregate market value of securities segregated by the Company's custodian required to collateralize open put option contracts written was

\$15,845,000.

10

SCHEDULE OF OUTSTANDING OPTION CONTRACTS

March 31, 2005 (unaudited)

Contracts (100 shares		Strike	Cont		Appreciation/
each)	Security	Price	Date	€	(Depreciation)
	COVERED CALLS				
100	AMBAC Financial Group, Inc.	\$ 90	May	05	\$ 7,325
100	AMBAC Financial Group, Inc.	85	Aug	05	3,200
100	AMBAC Financial Group, Inc.	90	Aug	05	10,045
200	American International Group, Inc.	70	May	05	23,199
150	Brinker International Inc.	40	Jul	05	7,049
100	Brinker International Inc.	40	Oct	05	3,699
100	Canadian National Railway Co.	60	Apr	05	(27,050)
30	Canadian National Railway Co.	85	Jul	05	(3,190)
100	ConocoPhillips	130	Aug	05	(1,250)
100	Genentech, Inc.	70	Sep	05	(3,801)
100	HCA Inc.	47.5	May	05	(55 , 655)
100	HCA Inc.	50	May	05	(35,300)
150	HCA Inc.	47.5	Aug	05	(97,201)
250	HCA Inc.	50	Aug	05	(108,126)
100	Illinois Tool Works Inc.	100	Jun	05	9,199
100	Illinois Tool Works Inc.	105	Sep	05	4,200
100	Investors Financial Services Corp.	55	Jul	05	1,350
100	Investors Financial Services Corp.	60	Jul	05	6,200
100	Johnson & Johnson	65	Apr	05	(14,800)
150	Laboratory Corp. of America Holdings	55	Aug	05	7 , 799
100	Ryland Group Inc.	60	Apr	05	(12,301)
300	Symantec Corp.	32.5	Apr	05	15,919
250	Target Corp.	55	Apr	05	30,249
150	Target Corp.	60	Oct	05	8,399
100	3M Co.	90	Jul	05	(5,300)
100	United Technologies Corp.	110	May	05	9,700
100	United Technologies Corp.	110	Aug	05	(6,051)
100	United Technologies Corp.	115	Aug	05	1,970
3,530					(220,523)
	COLLATERALIZED PUT	S			
150	Automatic Data Processing Inc.	42.5	Apr	05	10,050
250	Automatic Data Processing Inc.	40	Aug	05	10,499
100	Bank of America Corp.	45	Aug	05	(8,301)
250	Bunge Ltd.	50	Apr	05	19,249
250	Bunge Ltd.	45	Jul	05	5 , 499
150	Bunge Ltd.	50	Jul	05	3 , 299
250	Cintas Corp.	40	May	05	6,009
200	Cree, Inc.	25	Jun	05	(61,851)
100	Exxon Mobil Corp.	55	Jul	05	(2,800)
250	Fifth Third Bancorp	45	May	05	(27,001)

150 Gannett Co., Inc. 85 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. 200 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. 10 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. 10 Murphy Oil Corp. 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 200 Zimmer Holdings Inc. 3,095 (1,9 70 Oct 05 (1,9 6,1 70 Jul 05 14,7 70 Jul 05 70 Jul 05 (8 (4,8 70 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 Jul 05 (1,9 65 Oct 05 (1,9 65 Oct 05 (1,9 65 Oct 05 (1,9 66 67 70 Jul 05 (1,9 67 68 68 69 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60						
85 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. 45 Apr 05 6,1 200 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. 45 Jul 05 14,7 10 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. 50 Jul 05 4 100 Murphy Oil Corp. 70 Jul 05 10,4 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 May 05 (8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 Jul 05 (4,8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 65 Oct 05 (1,3 200 Zimmer Holdings Inc. 70 Jun 05 (6	100	Gannett Co., Inc.	75	Jul	05	200
200 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. 45 Jul 05 14,7 10 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. 50 Jul 05 4 100 Murphy Oil Corp. 70 Jul 05 10,4 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 May 05 (8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 Jul 05 (4,8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 65 Oct 05 (1,3 200 Zimmer Holdings Inc. 70 Jun 05 (6	150	Gannett Co., Inc.	70	Oct	05	(1,951)
10 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. 50 Jul 05 4 100 Murphy Oil Corp. 70 Jul 05 10,4 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 May 05 (8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 Jul 05 (4,8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 65 Oct 05 (1,3 200 Zimmer Holdings Inc. 70 Jun 05 (6	85	Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	45	Apr	05	6,120
100 Murphy Oil Corp. 70 Jul 05 10,4 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 May 05 (8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 Jul 05 (4,8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 65 Oct 05 (1,3 200 Zimmer Holdings Inc. 70 Jun 05 (6	200	Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	45	Jul	05	14,772
100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 May 05 (8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 Jul 05 (4,8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 65 Oct 05 (1,3 200 Zimmer Holdings Inc. 70 Jun 05 (6 3,095 (22,8	10	Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	50	Jul	05	420
100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 70 Jul 05 (4,8 100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 65 Oct 05 (1,3 200 Zimmer Holdings Inc. 70 Jun 05 (6 3,095 (22,8	100	Murphy Oil Corp.	70	Jul	05	10,418
100 United Parcel Service, Inc. 65 Oct 05 (1,3 200 Zimmer Holdings Inc. 70 Jun 05 (6 3,095 (22,8	100	United Parcel Service, Inc.	70	May	05	(800)
200 Zimmer Holdings Inc. 70 Jun 05 (6 3,095 (22,8	100	United Parcel Service, Inc.	70	Jul	05	(4,800)
3,095 (22,8	100	United Parcel Service, Inc.	65	Oct	05	(1,300)
	200	Zimmer Holdings Inc.	70	Jun	05	(601)
	3,095					(22,870)
\$ (243,3 ======						
=====						\$(243,393)
						=======

11

CHANGES IN PORTFOLIO SECURITIES

During the Three Months Ended March 31, 2005 (unaudited)

	Shares			
	Held			
		Reductions	March 31, 2005	
Automatic Data Processing Inc	225,000		225,000	
Bank of America Corp BankAtlantic Bancorp Inc	60,000 220,000		500,000 220,000	
Bunge Ltd Cintas Corp	170,000 300,000		170,000 300,000	
Clear Channel Communications Inc Comcast Corp	25,000 325,000		325,000 325,000	
Del Monte Foods Co	•		1,035,000 2,900,000	
Lucent Technologies Inc Martin Marietta Materials, Inc	8,000		141,600	
Murphy Oil Corp United Parcel Service, Inc	5,000 65,000		160,300 145,000	
American International Group Inc BMC Software Inc		188,675 70,000	550 , 000	
Canadian National Railway Co		120,000	135,000	
ConocoPhillipsHCA Inc		10,000 105,000	190,000 345,000	
Investors Financial Services Corp Keyspan Corp		20,000 196,100	380,000 140,000	
Laboratory Corp. of America Holdings Mattel, Inc		10,000 575,000	240,000	
Parker-Hannifin Corp		55,000 200,000	 20,000	
Sun Microsystems Inc		105,000	410,000 155,000	

12

(SELECTED) NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

The Adams Express Company (the Company) is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 as a diversified investment company. The Company's investment objectives as well as the nature and risk of its investment transactions are set forth in the Company's registration statement.

Security Valuation-Investments in securities traded on a national security exchange are valued at the last reported sale price on the day of valuation. Over-the-counter and listed securities for which a sale price is not available are valued at the last quoted bid price. Short-term investments (excluding purchased options) are valued at amortized cost. Purchased and written options are valued at the last quoted asked price.

Item 2. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

Conclusions of principal officers concerning controls and procedures:

- (a) As of May 25, 2005, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the officers of The Adams Express Company (the "Company"), including the principal executive officer ("PEO") and principal financial officer ("PFO"), of the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation, the Company's officers, including the PEO and PFO, concluded that, as of May 25, 2005, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were reasonably designed so as to ensure: (1) that information required to be disclosed by the Company on Form N-Q is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified by the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission; and (2) that material information relating to the Company is made known to the PEO and PFO as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.
- (b) There have been no significant changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30 a-3(d) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d)) that occurred during the Company's last fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 3. EXHIBITS.

The certifications of the principal executive officer and principal financial officer pursuant to Rule 30a-2 (a) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 are attached hereto as Form N-Q Certifications.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY

BY: /s/ Douglas G. Ober

Douglas G. Ober

Chief Executive Officer

Date: May 25, 2005

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

BY: /s/ Douglas G. Ober

Douglas G. Ober

Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)

Date: May 25, 2005

BY: /s/ Maureen A. Jones

Maureen A. Jones

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

(Principal Financial Officer)

Date: May 25, 2005