

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP
Form N-CSR
February 03, 2006

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

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT
INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act File Number 811-179

Name of registrant as specified in charter: Central Securities Corporation

Address of principal executive offices:

630 Fifth Avenue
Suite 820
New York, New York 10111

Name and address of agent for service:

Central Securities Corporation, Wilmot H. Kidd, President
630 Fifth Avenue
Suite 820
New York, New York 10111

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 212-698-2020

Date of fiscal year end: December 31, 2005

Date of reporting period: December 31, 2005

Item 1. Reports to Stockholders.

=====
CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION

SEVENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

2005
=====

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

"For most of recorded history, China was the world's largest economy. Until the end of the fifteenth century it was by far the leader in technology and had the highest per capita GDP on the planet. While Europeans were hacking at each other with broadswords, the Chinese were scaring their enemies to death with fireworks. Europe overtook China in per capita GDP by about 1500, but China remained the world's biggest economy until well into the nineteenth century. As late as 1820, the Middle Kingdom accounted for nearly a third of global GDP. By 1950, however, that had shrunk to less than 5 percent and China's per capita GDP was one of the lowest in the world."

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

"Unless things go badly off track, the story of the next fifty years will be that of China recovering its historically central position as the Middle Kingdom, with the world's largest population and economy. In terms of purchasing power parity, it could have a larger GDP than the United States as soon as 2020. And in nominal dollar terms, its GDP in 2050 will be \$45 trillion versus about \$35 trillion for the United States. China will be the world's largest market for virtually everything as well as the biggest recipient of investment from, and the largest investor in, most other countries. It will be a large international creditor, and the yuan could well be the world's money, or at least one of its major reserve currencies." (Clyde Prestowitz, Three Billion New Capitalists)

"There have been two great shifts in global power over the past 400 years. The first was the rise of Europe, which around the 17th century became the richest, most enterprising and ambitious part of the world. The second was the rise of the United States, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when it became the single most powerful country in the world, the globe's decisive player in economics and politics.

"For centuries, the rest of the world was a stage for the ambitions and interests of the West's great powers. China's rise, along with that of India and the continuing weight of Japan, represents the third great shift in global power - the rise of Asia.

"Great powers are not born every day. The list of current ones - the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia - has been mostly the same for two centuries. The arrival of a new one usually produces tension if not turmoil, as the newcomer tries to fit into the established order -- or overturns it to suit its purposes. Think of the rise of Germany and Japan in the early 20th century or the decline of the Ottoman Empire in that same period, which created the modern Middle East." (Fareed Zakaria, Newsweek, May 9, 2005)

"The U.S. is at a critical juncture. [It faces] a competitive challenge of historic dimensions coming from China, India, and many other emerging-market economies. India, China, Korea, and Southeast Asia will be the most robust part of the global economy and will become the center of it over the decades ahead. At some point in that period, China will likely become the world's largest economy. That is a challenge we can meet, but we are not on track to meet it today." (Robert Rubin, Business Week, December 19, 2005)

[2]

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

"According to estimates by The Economist, the total value of residential property in developed economies rose by more than \$30 trillion over the past five years, to over \$70 trillion, an increase equivalent to 100% of those countries' combined GDPs. Not only does this dwarf any previous house-price boom, it is larger than the global stockmarket bubble in the late 1990s (an increase over five years of 80% of GDP) or America's stockmarket bubble in the late 1920s (55% of GDP). In other words, it looks like the biggest bubble in history.

"The global boom in house prices has been driven by two common factors: historically low interest rates have encouraged home buyers to borrow money; and households have lost faith in equities after stockmarkets plunged, making

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

property look attractive. Will prices now fall, or simply flatten off?" (The Economist, June 18, 2005)

"There have been more than a dozen 'tax reform' attempts in Washington over the last 30 years; yet after all of this 'reforming,' the tax code is as monstrously complex as ever. The tax code is now 3.5 million words long and IRS regulations are another 8 million words - together that's about 12 times the length of William Shakespeare's complete works, and 15 times the length of the King James Bible." (Stephen Moore, The Wall Street Journal, January 27, 2005)

"As most Americans are aware, our auto industry is in a crisis. Workers' wages are falling, and hundreds of thousands of jobs are being sent offshore. America's largest parts supplier, Delphi, filed for bankruptcy protection, and General Motors, Delphi's main customer, may too, if a threatened United Auto Workers strike occurs next month. Meanwhile, Ford and its main parts supplier, Visteon, seem to be skidding down the same road.

"How did we get here? There are many causes: poor car designs, high pension costs, increased foreign competition. But much of it comes down to the overwhelming health insurance costs borne by the automakers. This is why the union's president, Ron Gettelfinger, has urged Congress to enact sweeping health insurance reforms.

"If the government paid everyone's health insurance bills, as those in Canada and most of Europe do, Detroit's Big Three could save at least \$1,300 per vehicle. Profitability would return. With deeper pockets, the auto makers could afford to pay their suppliers. Communities would be spared layoffs." (Robert Fitch, The New York Times, December 28, 2005)

"The technology revolution is at an early stage....More transformational than technology itself is the shift in behaviour that it enables. We work not just globally but instantaneously. We are forming communities and relationships in new ways (12 percent of American newlyweds last year met online). More than 2bn people now use cellphones. We send 9,000 bn e-mails a year. We do a billion Google searches a day, over half not in the English language. For perhaps the first time in history, geography is not the primary constraint on the boundaries of social and economic organisation." (Ian Davis, The Financial Times, January 13, 2006)

[3]

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION

(Organized on October 1, 1929 as an investment company, registered as such with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940.)

TEN YEAR HISTORICAL DATA

Per Share of Common Stock

Total Convertible Net Net Net realized Unr

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

Year	net assets	Preference Stock (A)	asset value	investment income (B)	Divi- dends (C)	Distribu- tions (C)	investment gain	appr of in
1995	\$292,547,559	\$9,488,350	\$21.74					\$162
1996	356,685,785	9,102,050	25.64	\$.27	\$.28	\$1.37	\$18,154,136	214
1997	434,423,053	9,040,850	29.97	.24	.34	2.08	30,133,125	273
1998	476,463,575	8,986,125	31.43	.29	.29	1.65	22,908,091	301
1999	590,655,679	--	35.05	.26	.26	2.34	43,205,449	394
2000	596,289,086	--	32.94	.32	.32	4.03	65,921,671	363
2001	539,839,060	--	28.54	.18	.22	1.58*	13,662,612	304
2002	361,942,568	--	18.72	.14	.14	1.11	22,869,274	119
2003	478,959,218	--	24.32	.09	.11	1.29	24,761,313	229
2004	529,468,675	--	26.44	.11	.11	1.21	25,103,157	271
2005	573,979,905	--	27.65	.28	.28	1.72	31,669,417	302

A- At liquidation preference.

B- Excluding gains or losses realized on sale of investments and the dividend requirement on the Convertible Preference Stock which was redeemed August 1, 1999.

C- Computed on the basis of the Corporation's status as a "regulated investment company" for Federal income tax purposes. Dividends are from undistributed net investment income. Distributions are from long-term investment gains.

* Includes a non-taxable return of capital of \$.55.

The Common Stock is listed on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol CET. On December 30, 2005 (the last trading day of the year) the market quotations were: \$23.73 low, \$23.90 high and \$23.80 last sale.

Central's results to December 31, 2005 versus the S&P 500:

Average Annual Total Return	Central's NAV Return	Central's Market Return	Standard & Poor's 500
One Year	13.8%	14.0%	4.9%
Five Year	3.8%	4.2%	0.5%
Ten Year	11.9%	10.0%	9.1%
Fifteen Year	16.6%	17.5%	11.5%

[4]

To the Stockholders of

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION:

Financial statements for the year 2005, as reported upon by our independent registered public accounting firm, and other pertinent information are submitted herewith.

Comparative net assets are as follows:

December 31, 2005	December 31, 2004
----	----

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

Net assets	\$573,979,905	\$529,468,675
Net assets per share of Common Stock	27.65	26.44
Shares of Common Stock outstanding	20,762,159	20,023,209

Comparative operating results are as follows:

	Year 2005 -----	Year 2004 -----
Net investment income	\$ 5,684,776	\$ 2,073,746
Per share of Common Stock .....	.28*	.11*
Net realized gain on sale of investments	31,669,417	25,103,157
Increase in net unrealized appreciation of investments	30,671,492	42,322,038
Increase in net assets resulting from operations ..	68,025,685	69,498,941

* Per-share data are based on the average number of Common shares outstanding during the year.

The Corporation made two distributions to holders of Common Stock in 2005, a cash dividend of \$.20 per share paid on June 24 and an optional distribution of \$1.80 per share in cash, or one share of Common Stock for each 12.5 shares held, paid on December 27. For Federal income tax purposes, of the \$2.00 paid in 2005, \$.28 represents ordinary income and \$1.72 represents long-term capital gains, and separate notices have been mailed to stockholders. With respect to state and local taxes, the status of distributions may vary. Stockholders should consult with their tax advisors on this matter.

In the optional distribution paid in December, the holders of 58% of the outstanding shares of Common Stock elected stock, and they received 923,250 Common shares.

During 2005 the Corporation repurchased 184,300 shares of its Common Stock on the American Stock Exchange at an average price per share of \$24.09. The Corporation may from time to time purchase Common Stock in such amounts and at such prices as the Board of Directors may deem advisable in the best interests of stockholders. Purchases may be made on the American Stock Exchange or in private transactions directly with stockholders.

[5]

Overall equity market returns last year were below the long-term trend of 10-12%. The S&P 500 increased by 4.9% while the Russell 2000, an index of smaller companies, increased by 4.6%. Central's 13.8% increase was aided primarily by energy stocks (Unocal, Murphy, Kerr-McGee, and Nexen) and investments in Plymouth Rock, TriZetto, Agilent, Brady and Roper. Unisys, PolyOne and Flextronics declined during the year. Our investment activity, as measured by portfolio turnover, was 16%. We added nine new investments and sold eight as well as making a number of additions and reductions as reported quarterly. We ended the year with thirty-nine holdings. The ten largest, shown on page eight, accounted for 57% of net assets.

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

Energy stocks performed well last year in part because the price of both oil and natural gas continued to rise. Probably the most interesting aspect of the price increase was the fact that it did not have a more noticeable dampening effect on overall economic activity. Consumers seemed to take the \$3.00 per gallon price of gasoline in stride. We have yet to see, however, what effect higher winter heating bills may have. The contested takeover of Unocal and the restructuring of Kerr-McGee were two events that had a positive outcome for Central. While we do not believe that we can forecast the price of oil or gas, looking ahead, we do believe it is possible that there will be more industry consolidation as the cash rich majors look for ways to acquire companies with drilling opportunities. In the meantime, the exploration companies that Central owns have been doing an excellent job of developing drilling prospects and finding oil and gas.

Although audited financial information will not be available until March, it appears that Plymouth Rock had another good year on top of the spectacular results of 2004. The coming year will likely be more challenging. The environment in New Jersey has become more competitive with the entry of new companies including GEICO and, more recently, Progressive. In Massachusetts the Governor has proposed regulatory changes intended to bring more national companies into the state. The ongoing information technology project at Plymouth Rock is now in its implementation phase. In the long run it will provide the company with significant capabilities and savings, but at the moment it requires a great deal of attention. Plymouth Rock's management is focused on all of these issues and we have confidence in the company's ability to meet these challenges. We also have confidence in management's ability to grow Plymouth Rock for a number of years into the future.

As we have indicated, Plymouth Rock is not publicly traded and is valued by Central's Board of Directors, based primarily on an independent appraisal obtained by Plymouth Rock. In addition, we compare it with other insurance companies, evaluate management, corporate governance, the company and industry outlooks, marketability, and other factors, including recent private transactions, to determine the estimated fair value used in the accompanying financials.

Last year we commented on the flow of capital into an increasing number of hedge funds and, recently a report indicated that the private equity industry (leveraged buy-outs and venture capital) had raised \$250 billion in 2005. The ultimate effect of this flow of capital into hedge funds and private equity is not clear. In any event, it is indicative of substantial wealth in the form of liquid assets seeking employment in the equity markets. Over long periods of time small-cap stocks have produced better investment results than large-cap stocks. During the past three years good small and mid-cap performance has probably been aided by the attention of hedge and private equity funds with new money to put to work. Central has historically focused in this area, and, for example, benefited last year when Sungard was acquired in a buy-out. Finding new investments is increasingly challenging.

[6]

Our investment approach continues to be based on the long-term view. We try to make investments at a reasonable, if not a bargain, price with the idea of holding for a three to five year period. Many investors are forced to have a shorter time horizon, and we believe that our ability to take a long-term view has been an advantage for Central stockholders. For example, we sometimes invest in situations in which a company is making a significant investment that we think will benefit the future but is currently penalizing results. It is very important in our view that management's interests are aligned with those of shareholders, with integrity being a sine qua non.

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

Our long-standing practice has been to keep about one half of our assets in a small number of companies, with the remainder in a more diversified portfolio. We believe the risk associated with this approach can be reduced through knowledge of the companies in which we invest. Ideally, we want to hold growing, profitable companies for extended periods of time. Significant growth for any particular company will not last indefinitely, and, over time, the composition of our assets will change as long-term investments are reduced or sold and the proceeds redeployed.

It is our goal to provide shareholders with investment management that will be judged as excellent over the long-term. We continue to believe that under reasonably favorable economic conditions our investment approach will provide satisfactory results.

Shareholder inquiries are welcome.

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION

WILMOT H. KIDD, President

630 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10111
January 25, 2006

In December 2005, the corporation initiated direct registration, a system that allows for book-entry ownership and the electronic transfer of the Corporation's shares. Stockholders may find direct registration a convenient way of managing their investment. Stockholders wishing certificates may request them.

A pamphlet which describes the features and benefits of direct registration, including the ability of shareholders to deposit certificates with our transfer agent, can be obtained by calling Computershare Trust Company at 1-800-756-8200, calling the Corporation at 1-866-593-2507 or visiting our website: www.centalsecurities.com under Contact Us.

[7]

TEN LARGEST INVESTMENTS

December 31, 2005

	Cost	Value	Percent of Net Assets	Year Fi Acquir
	----	-----	-----	-----
	(millions)			
The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc.	\$ 2.2	\$108.5	18.9%	198
Brady Corporation Class A	3.5	33.6	5.9	198
Murphy Oil Corporation	3.7	32.4	5.6	197
Capital One Financial Corporation	1.4	25.9	4.5	199
Agilent Technologies, Inc.	18.1	25.0	4.3	200
Convergys Corporation	24.1	24.6	4.3	199
Intel Corporation	0.4	24.5	4.3	198
Kerr-McGee Corporation	12.1	18.2	3.2	200
The TriZetto Group, Inc.	5.4	17.4	3.0	200

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

Roper Industries, Inc. 9.0 16.2 2.8 200

PRINCIPAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES

October 1 to December 31, 2005
(Common Stock unless specified otherwise)

	Number of Shares		
	Purchased	Sold	Held December 31, 2005
Abbott Laboratories	20,000		120,000
Agilent Technologies, Inc.	150,000		750,000
Brady Corporation Class A	60,000		930,000
Capital One Financial Corporation		10,000	300,000
Cincinnati Bell Inc.		300,000	500,000
Cypress Semiconductor Corporation	55,000		255,000
Dover Corporation	140,000		400,000
Kerr-McGee Corporation	60,649		200,000
Nexen Inc.	20,000		160,000
PolyOne Corporation		50,000	1,150,000
Sonus Networks, Inc.	2,000,000		2,000,000
Unisys Corporation		100,000	900,000
Virage Logic Corp	76,300		96,400

[8]

DIVERSIFICATION OF INVESTMENTS

December 31, 2005

	Issues	Cost	Value	Percent of Net Assets December 31	
				2005	2004
Common Stocks:					
Insurance	2	\$2,610,297	\$109,032,000	19.0%	20.3
Electronics	9	42,639,736	99,156,582	17.3	12.2
Energy	6	52,773,727	90,521,001	15.8	13.1
Information Technology Services	5	54,345,926	68,192,256	11.9	15.7
Manufacturing	3	25,531,980	66,042,500	11.5	9.7
Banking and Finance	2	4,778,824	41,845,000	7.3	11.5
Health Care	5	20,693,769	20,215,100	3.5	3.9
Chemicals	3	14,080,461	19,039,500	3.3	3.6
Other	5	5,364,215	11,156,668	1.9	1.6
Short-Term Investments	2	48,252,004	48,252,004	8.4	8.3

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

	2005 ----	2004 ----	2003 ----	2002 ----
Per Share Operating Performance:				
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 26.44	\$ 24.32	\$ 18.72	\$ 17.12
Net investment income* .....	.28	.11	.09	.09
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on securities*	2.93	3.33	6.91	6.91
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total from investment operations	3.21	3.44	7.00	7.00
Less:				
Dividends from net investment income** .....	.28	.11	.11	.11
Distributions from capital gains**	1.72	1.21	1.29	1.29
Return of capital**	--	--	--	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total distributions	2.00	1.32	1.40	1.40
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 27.65	\$ 26.44	\$ 24.32	\$ 22.92
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Per share market value, end of year	\$ 23.80	\$ 22.85	\$ 20.89	\$ 19.89
Total return based on market(%)	14.04	16.16	36.22	36.22
Total return based on NAV(%)	13.75	15.40	39.32	39.32
Ratios/Supplemental Data:				
Net assets, end of year(000)	\$573,980	\$529,469	\$478,959	\$366,959
Ratio of expenses to average net assets(%) .....	.54	.55	.56	.56
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets(%)	1.02	.41	.42	.42
Portfolio turnover rate(%)	15.83	16.72	12.90	12.90

* Based on the average number of shares outstanding during the year.

** Computed on the basis of the Corporation's status as a "regulated investment company" for Federal income tax purposes.

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

[9]

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

December 31, 2005

PORTFOLIO SECURITIES 91.5%
STOCKS (COMMON UNLESS SPECIFIED OTHERWISE)

Prin. Amt. or Shares -----		Value -----
	Banking and Finance 7.3%	
500,000	The Bank of New York Company, Inc.	\$ 15,925,000
300,000	Capital One Financial Corporation	25,920,000

		41,845,000

	Chemicals 3.3%	
100,000	The Dow Chemical Company	4,382,000
1,150,000	PolyOne Corporation (a)	7,394,500
150,000	Rohm and Haas Company	7,263,000

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

		19,039,500

	Communications 0.9%	
500,000	Arbinet-thexchange Inc. (a)	3,505,000
500,000	Cincinnati Bell Inc. (a)	1,755,000

		5,260,000

	Electronics 17.3%	
750,000	Agilent Technologies, Inc. (a)	24,967,500
430,000	Analog Devices, Inc.	15,424,100
255,000	Cypress Semiconductor Corporation (a)	3,633,750
1,000,000	Flextronics International Ltd. (a)	10,440,000
980,000	Intel Corporation	24,460,800
200,000	Motorola, Inc.	4,518,000
2,000,000	Solectron Corporation (a)	7,320,000
2,000,000	Sonus Networks, Inc. (a).	7,440,000
96,400	Virage Logic Corporation (a)	952,432

		99,156,582

	Energy 15.8%	
234,328	Chevron Corporation	13,302,801
200,000	Kerr-McGee Corporation	18,172,000
320,000	McMoRan Exploration Co. (a)	6,326,400
600,000	Murphy Oil Corporation	32,394,000
160,000	Nexen Inc.	7,620,800
1,925,000	TransMontaigne Inc. (a)	12,705,000

		90,521,001

	Health Care 3.5%	
120,000	Abbott Laboratories	4,731,600
100,000	Merck & Co. Inc.	3,181,000
100,000	Pfizer Inc.	2,332,000
450,000	Schering-Plough Corporation	9,382,500
140,000	Vical Inc. (a)	588,000

		20,215,100

[10]

Prin. Amt. or Shares		Value
-----		-----
	Information Technology Services 11.9%	
400,000	Accenture Ltd. (a).	\$ 11,548,000
378,600	Ceridian Corporation (a)	9,408,210
1,550,000	Convergys Corporation (a)	24,567,500
1,025,400	The TriZetto Group, Inc. (a)	17,421,546
900,000	Unisys Corporation (a)	5,247,000

		68,192,256

	Insurance 19.0%	
10,000	Erie Indemnity Co. Class A	532,000
70,000	The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc. Class A (b) (c) (d)	108,500,000

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

		----- 109,032,000 -----
	Manufacturing 11.5%	
930,000	Brady Corporation Class A	33,647,400
400,000	Dover Corporation	16,196,000
410,000	Roper Industries, Inc.	16,199,100
		----- 66,042,500 -----
	Retail Trade 0.1%	
28,751	Aerogroup International, Inc. (a) (c)	644,885

	Transportation 0.9%	
531,557	Transport Corporation of America, Inc. Class B (a) (b)	5,251,783

	Miscellaneous 0.0%	
	Grumman Hill Investments, L.P. (a) (c)	0

	Total Portfolio Securities (cost \$222,818,936) (d)	525,200,607

	SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS 8.4%	
	Commercial Paper 3.2%	
18,692,000	Citigroup Funding 4.1600% - 4.2209% due 2/8/06 - 2/15/06	18,604,645

	U.S. Treasury Bills 5.2%	
29,902,000	U.S. Treasury Bills 3.6104% - 4.0244% due 2/16/06 - 4/20/06	29,647,359

	Total Short-Term Investments (cost \$48,252,004) (d)	48,252,004

	Total Investments (cost \$271,070,940) (d) (99.9%)	573,452,611
	Cash, receivables and other assets less liabilities (0.1%)	527,294

	Net Assets (100%)	\$573,979,905 =====

(a) Non-dividend paying.

(b) Affiliate as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940.

(c) Valued at estimated fair value.

(d) Aggregate cost for Federal tax purposes is substantially the same.

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

[11]

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
December 31, 2005

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

ASSETS:

Investments:

General portfolio securities at market value (cost \$219,362,804) (Note 1)	\$411,448,824	
Securities of affiliated companies (cost \$3,456,132) (Notes 1, 5 and 6)	113,751,783	
Short-term investments (cost \$48,252,004)	48,252,004	\$573,4

Cash, receivables and other assets:

Cash	304,702	
Dividends and interest receivable	95,375	
Office equipment and leasehold improvements, net	463,624	
Other assets	84,875	9
	-----	-----

Total Assets 574,4

LIABILITIES:

Payable for securities purchased	108,000	
Accrued expenses and reserves	313,282	

Total Liabilities 4

NET ASSETS \$573,9

NET ASSETS are represented by:

Common Stock \$1 par value: authorized 30,000,000 shares; issued 20,820,859 (Note 2)		\$ 20,8
---	--	---------

Surplus:

Paid-in	\$251,255,509	
Undistributed net gain on sale of investments	793,487	
Undistributed net investment income	136,692	252,1
	-----	-----

Net unrealized appreciation of investments 302,3

Treasury stock, at cost (58,700 shares of Common Stock)

(Note 2) (1,4

NET ASSETS \$573,9

NET ASSET VALUE PER COMMON SHARE

(20,762,159 shares outstanding)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

[12]

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the year ended December 31, 2005

INVESTMENT INCOME

Income:

Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$3,642)	\$ 6,644,762	
Interest	2,015,881	\$ 8,6
	-----	-----

Expenses:

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

Administration and operations	812,500	
Investment research	760,000	
Occupancy costs	433,217	
Franchise and miscellaneous taxes	147,759	
Employees' retirement plans	125,500	
Directors' fees	117,750	
Listing, software and sundry fees	117,484	
Insurance	110,606	
Stationery, supplies, printing and postage	93,158	
Legal, auditing and tax fees	80,032	
Travel and telephone	44,480	
Transfer agent and registrar fees and expenses	34,998	
Custodian fees	30,643	
Publications and miscellaneous	67,740	2,9

Net investment income		5,6
NET REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN		
ON INVESTMENTS		
Net realized gain from investment transactions	31,669,417	
Net increase in unrealized appreciation of investments	30,671,492	

Net gain on investments		62,3
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM		
OPERATIONS		\$68,0
		=====

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

[13]

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
For the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

FROM OPERATIONS:		
Net investment income		\$ 5
Net realized gain on investments		31
Net increase in unrealized appreciation of investments		30

Increase in net assets resulting from operations		68

DISTRIBUTIONS TO STOCKHOLDERS FROM:		
Net investment income		(5
Net realized gain from investment transactions		(34

Decrease in net assets from distributions		(39

FROM CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS: (Note 2)		

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

Distribution to stockholders reinvested in	
Common Stock	20
Cost of shares of Common Stock repurchased	(4)

Increase in net assets from capital share transactions	16

Total increase in net assets	44
NET ASSETS:	
Beginning of year	529

End of year (including undistributed net investment income of \$136,692 and \$97,684, respectively)	\$573
	=====

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

[14]

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the year ended December 31, 2005

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Net increase in net assets from operations	\$
Adjustments to net increase in net assets from operations:	
Purchase of securities	(\$78,203,872)
Proceeds from securities sold	99,997,126
Net purchases of short-term investments	(4,259,383)
Net realized gain from investments	(31,669,417)
Increase in unrealized appreciation	(30,671,492)
Depreciation and amortization	83,256
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	
Decrease in dividends and interest receivable	185,092
Increase in office equipment and leasehold improvements	(7,991)
Decrease in other assets	79,900
Increase in accrued expenses and reserves	4,167

Total adjustments	(

Net cash provided by operating activities	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Dividends paid	(19,075,193)
Treasury shares repurchased	(4,331,262)

Cash flows used in financing activities	(

Net increase in cash	
Cash at beginning of year	

Cash at end of year	\$
	=====
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION:	
Non-cash financing activities not included herein consist of:	
Reinvestment of dividends and distributions to stockholders	\$
Payable for treasury shares repurchased	\$

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

[15]

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Significant Accounting Policies--The Corporation is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Corporation in the preparation of its financial statements. The policies are in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Security Valuation--Securities are valued at the last or closing sale price or, if unavailable, at the closing bid price. Corporate discount notes and U.S. Treasury Bills are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market value. Securities for which no ready market exists, including The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc. Class A Common Stock, are valued at estimated fair value by the Board of Directors.

Federal Income Taxes--It is the Corporation's policy to meet the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to its stockholders. Therefore, no Federal income taxes have been accrued.

Use of Estimates--The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Other--Security transactions are accounted for as of the date the securities are purchased or sold, and cost of securities sold is determined by specific identification. Dividend income and distributions to stockholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

2. Common Stock--The Corporation repurchased 184,300 shares of its Common Stock in 2005 at an average price of \$24.09 per share representing an average discount from net asset value of 14.32%. It may from time to time purchase Common Stock in such amounts and at such prices as the Board of Directors may deem advisable in the best interests of the stockholders. Purchases will only be made at less than net asset value per share, thereby increasing the net asset value of shares held by the remaining stockholders. Shares so acquired may be held as treasury stock, available for optional stock distributions, or may be retired.

The Corporation made two distributions to holders of Common Stock in 2005, a cash dividend of \$.20 per share paid on June 24 and an optional distribution of \$1.80 per share in cash, or one share of Common Stock for each 12.5 shares held, paid on December 27. In the optional distribution, 125,600 shares of Common Stock held as treasury shares by the Corporation were distributed, and 797,650 Common shares were issued.

3. Investment Transactions--The aggregate cost of securities purchased and the aggregate proceeds of securities sold during the year ended December 31, 2005, excluding short-term investments, were \$78,203,872 and \$99,997,126, respectively.

[16]

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- Continued

As of December 31, 2005, based on cost for Federal income tax purposes, the aggregate gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation for all securities were \$312,746,271 and \$10,364,600, respectively.

4. Operating Expenses--The aggregate remuneration paid during the year ended December 31, 2005 to officers and directors amounted to \$1,542,750, of which \$117,750 was paid as fees to directors who were not officers. Benefits to employees are provided through a profit sharing retirement plan. Contributions to the plan are made at the discretion of the Board of Directors, and each participant's benefits vest after three years. The amount contributed for the year ended December 31, 2005 was \$114,750.

5. Affiliates--The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc. and Transport Corporation of America, Inc. are affiliates as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940. The Corporation received dividends of \$3,059,000 from affiliates during the year ended December 31, 2005. Unrealized appreciation related to affiliates increased by \$16,244,578 for the year 2005 to \$110,295,651.

6. Restricted Securities--The Corporation from time to time invests in securities the resale of which is restricted. On December 31, 2005 such investments had an aggregate value of \$109,144,885, which was equal to 19.0% of the Corporation's net assets. Investments in restricted securities at December 31, 2005, including acquisition dates and cost, were:

Company	Shares	Security	Date Purchased	Cost
Aerogroup International, Inc.	28,751	Common Stock	6/14/05	\$ 17,200
Grumman Hill Investments, L.P.		Limited Partnership Interest	9/11/85	
The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc.	70,000	Class A Common Stock	12/15/82 6/9/84	1,500,000 699,980

The Corporation does not have the right to demand registration of the restricted securities. Unrealized appreciation related to restricted securities increased by \$15,835,875 for the year ended December, 31, 2005 to \$106,927,699.

7. Operating Lease Commitment--The Corporation has entered into an operating lease for office space which expires in 2014 and provides for future minimum rental payments in the aggregate amount of approximately \$2.8 million. The lease agreement contains escalation clauses relating to operating costs and real property taxes. Future minimum rental commitments under the lease are \$314,241 per year for 2006 through 2008, \$329,172 for 2009 and \$341,806 annually thereafter.

[17]

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED
PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STOCKHOLDERS OF
CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the statement of investments, of Central Securities Corporation (the "Corporation") as of December 31, 2005, and the related statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Corporation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and financial highlights. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2005 by correspondence with the custodian and broker. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Central Securities Corporation as of December 31, 2005, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

The information set forth for each of the years in the ten-year and two-year periods ended December 31, 2005 appearing in the tables on pages 4 and 5, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements from which it has been derived.

KPMG LLP

New York, NY
January 27, 2006

Quarterly Portfolio Information

The Corporation files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first quarter and the third quarter of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Corporation's Form N-Q filings are available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Those forms may be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington D.C. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330.

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Independent Directors -----	Age ---	Principal Occupations (last five years) and Position with the Corporation (if any) -----
SIMMS C. BROWNING Director since 2005	65	Retired since 2003; Vice President, Neuberger Berman, LLC (asset management) prior thereto
DONALD G. CALDER Director since 1982	68	President, G.L. Ohrstrom & Co. Inc. (private investment firm); Director of Brown-Forman Corporation, Carlisle Companies Inc., Roper Industries, Inc. (manufacturing companies)
JAY R. INGLIS Director since 1973	71	Chairman, Central Securities Corporation; Executive Vice President, National Marine Underwriters (insurance management company)
DUDLEY D. JOHNSON Director since 1984	66	President, Young & Franklin Inc. (private manufacturing company)
C. CARTER WALKER, JR. Director since 1974	71	Private investor
Interested Director -----		
WILMOT H. KIDD Director since 1972	64	Investment and research--President, Central Securities Corporation
CHARLES N. EDGERTON	61	Vice President and Treasurer, Central Securities Corporation
MARLENE A. KRUMHOLZ	42	Secretary, Central Securities Corporation

The address of each Director and Officer is c/o Central Securities Corporation, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10111.

Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures

The policies and procedures used by the Corporation to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities and the Corporation's proxy voting record for the twelve-month period ended June 30, 2005 are available: (1) without charge, upon request, by calling us at our toll-free telephone number (1-866-593-2507), (2) on the Corporation's website at www.centalsecurities.com and (3) on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at www.sec.gov.

[19]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jay R. Inglis, Chairman
 Simms C. Browning
 Donald G. Calder
 Dudley D. Johnson

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

Wilmot H. Kidd
C. Carter Walker, Jr.

OFFICERS

Wilmot H. Kidd, President
Charles N. Edgerton, Vice President and Treasurer
Marlene A. Krumholz, Secretary

OFFICE

630 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10111
212-698-2020
866-593-2507 (toll-free)
www.centralsecurities.com

CUSTODIAN

UMB Bank, N.A.
Kansas City, MO

TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR

Computershare Trust Company, N.A.
P.O. Box 43069, Providence, RI 02940-3069
800-756-8200
www.computershare.com

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

KPMG LLP
New York, NY

[20]

Item 2. Code of Ethics. The Registrant has adopted a code of ethics that applies to its principal executive officer and principal financial officer. This code of ethics is filed as an attachment on this form.

Item 3. Audit Committee Financial Experts. The Board of Directors of the Corporation has determined that none of the members of its Audit Committee (the "Committee") meet the definition of "Audit Committee Financial Expert" as the term has been defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). The Board of Directors considered the possibility of adding a member that would qualify as an Audit Committee Financial Expert, but has determined that the Committee has sufficient expertise to perform its duties. In addition, the Committee's charter authorizes the Committee to engage a financial expert should it determine that such assistance is required.

Item 4. Principal Accountant Fees and Services.

	2005 -----	2004 -----
Audit fees.....	\$35,500 (1)	\$34,000 (1)
Audit-related fees.....	0	0
Tax fees.....	14,750 (2)	14,250 (2)
All other fees.....	0	0
	-----	-----
Total fees.....	\$50,250	\$48,250

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

=====

- (1) Includes fees for review of the semi-annual report to stockholders and audit of the annual report to stockholders.
- (2) Includes fees for services performed with respect to tax compliance and tax planning.

Pursuant to its charter, the Audit Committee is responsible for recommending the selection, approving compensation and overseeing the independence, qualifications and performance of the independent accountants. The Audit Committee's policy is to pre-approve all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by the independent accountants. In assessing requests for services by the independent accountants, the Audit Committee considers whether such services are consistent with the auditor's independence; whether the independent accountants are likely to provide the most effective and efficient service based upon their familiarity with the Corporation; and whether the service could enhance the Corporation's ability to manage or control risk or improve audit quality. The Audit Committee may delegate pre-approval authority to one or more of its members. Any pre-approvals by a member under this delegation are to be reported to the Audit Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

All of the audit and tax services provided by KPMG LLP in fiscal year 2005 (described in the footnotes to the table above) and related fees were approved in advance by the Audit Committee.

Item 5. Audit Committee of Listed Registrants. The registrant has a separately-designated standing audit committee. Its members are: Simms C. Browning, Donald G. Calder, Jay R. Inglis, Dudley D. Johnson and C. Carter Walker, Jr.

Item 6. Schedule of Investments. Schedule is included as a part of the report to shareholders filed under Item 1 of this Form.

Item 7. Disclose Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures for Closed-End Management Companies.

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION PROXY VOTING GUIDELINES

Central Securities Corporation is involved in many matters of corporate governance through the proxy voting process. We exercise our voting responsibilities with the primary goal of maximizing the long-term value of our investments. Our consideration of proxy issues is focused on the investment implications of each proposal.

Our management evaluates and votes each proxy ballot that we receive. We do not use a proxy voting service. Our Board of Directors has approved guidelines in evaluating how to vote a particular proxy ballot. We recognize that a company's management is entrusted with the day-to-day operations of the company, as well as longer term strategic planning, subject to the oversight of the company's board of directors. Our guidelines are based on the belief that a company's shareholders have a responsibility to evaluate company performance and to exercise the rights and duties pertaining to ownership.

When determining whether to invest in a particular company, one of the key factors we consider is the ability and integrity of its management. As a result, we believe that recommendations of management on any issue, particularly routine issues, should be given substantial weight in determining how proxies should be

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

voted. Thus, on most issues, our votes are cast in accordance with the company's recommendations. When we believe management's recommendation is not in the best interests of our stockholders, we will vote against management's recommendation.

Due to the nature of our business and our size, it is unlikely that conflicts of interest will arise in our voting of proxies of public companies. We do not engage in investment banking nor do we have private advisory clients or any other businesses. In the unlikely event that we determine that a conflict does arise on a proxy voting issue, we will defer that proxy vote to our independent directors.

We have listed the following, specific examples of voting decisions for the types of proposals that are frequently presented. We generally vote according to these guidelines.

We may, on occasion, vote otherwise when we believe it to be in the best interest of our stockholders:

Election of Directors - We believe that good governance starts with an independent board, unfettered by significant ties to management, in which all members are elected annually. In addition, key board committees should be entirely independent.

- o We support the election of directors that result in a board made up of a majority of independent directors who do not appear to have been remiss in the performance of their oversight responsibilities.
- o We will withhold votes for non-independent directors who serve on the audit, compensation or nominating committees of the board.
- o We consider withholding votes for directors who missed more than one-fourth of the scheduled board meetings without good reason in the previous year.
- o We generally oppose the establishment of classified boards of directors and will support proposals that directors stand for election annually.
- o We generally oppose limits to the tenure of directors or requirements that candidates for directorships own large amounts of stock before being eligible for election.

Compensation - We believe that appropriately designed equity-based compensation plans can be an effective way to align the interests of long-term shareholders and the interests of management, employees, and directors. We are opposed to plans that substantially dilute our ownership interest in the company, provide participants with excessive awards, or have inherently objectionable structural features without offsetting advantages to the company's stockholders. We evaluate proposals related to compensation on a case-by case basis.

- o We generally support stock option plans that are incentive based and not excessive.
- o We generally oppose the ability to re-price options without compensating factors when the underlying stock has fallen in value.
- o We support measures intended to increase the long-term stock ownership by executives including requiring stock acquired through option exercise to be held for a substantial period of time.

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

- o We generally support stock purchase plans to increase company stock ownership by employees, provided that shares purchased under the plan are acquired for not less than 85% of their market value.
- o We generally oppose change-in-control provisions in non-salary compensation plans, employment contracts, and severance agreements which benefit management and would be costly to shareholders if triggered.

Corporate Structure and Shareholder Rights - We generally oppose anti-takeover measures and other proposals designed to limit the ability of shareholders to act on possible transactions. We support proposals when management can demonstrate that there are sound financial or business reasons.

- o We generally support proposals to remove super-majority voting requirements and oppose amendments to bylaws which would require a super-majority of shareholder votes to pass or repeal certain provisions.
- o We will evaluate proposals regarding shareholders rights plans ("poison pills") on a case-by-case basis considering issues such as the term of the arrangement and the level of review by independent directors.
- o We will review proposals for changes in corporate structure such as changes in the state of incorporation or mergers individually. We generally oppose proposals where management does not offer an appropriate rationale.
- o We generally support share repurchase programs.
- o We generally support the general updating of or corrective amendments to corporate charters and by-laws.
- o We generally oppose the elimination of the rights of shareholders to call special meetings.

Approval of Independent Auditors - We believe that the relationship between the company and its auditors should be limited primarily to the audit engagement and closely related activities that do not, in the aggregate, raise the appearance of impaired independence.

- o We generally support management's proposals regarding the approval of independent auditors.
- o We evaluate on a case-by-case basis instances in which the audit firm appears to have a substantial non-audit relationship with the company or companies affiliated with it.

Social and Corporate Responsibility Issues - We believe that ordinary business matters are primarily the responsibility of management and should be approved solely by the corporation's board of directors. Proposals in this category, initiated primarily by shareholders, typically request that the company disclose or amend certain business practices. We generally vote with management on these types of proposals, although we may make exceptions in certain instances where we believe a proposal has substantial economic implications.

- o We generally oppose shareholder proposals which apply restrictions related to social, political, or special interest issues which affect the ability of the company to do business or be competitive

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

and which have significant financial impact.

- o We generally oppose proposals which require that the company provide costly, duplicative, or redundant reports, or reports of a non-business nature.

Item 8. Portfolio Managers of Closed-End Management Investment Companies. Mr. Wilmot H. Kidd is the President and portfolio manager of the Corporation and has served in that capacity since 1973. He manages no other accounts and accordingly, the Registrant is not aware of any material conflicts with his management of the

Corporation's investments. Mr. Kidd's compensation consists primarily of a fixed base salary and a bonus. His compensation is reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors annually. His compensation may be adjusted from year to year based on the Board of Directors perception of overall performance and his management responsibilities. As of December 31, 2005, Mr. Kidd's investment in Central Securities common stock exceeded \$1 million.

Item 9. Purchases of Equity Securities by Closed-End Management Investment Company and Affiliated Purchasers.

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased	(b) Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)	(c) Total Number of Sha (or Units) Purchased as of Publicly Announced P or Programs
Month #1 (July 1 through July 31)	12,200	\$25.18	NA
Month #2 (August 1 through August 31)	17,300	\$25.61	NA
Month #3 (September 1 through September 30)	13,200	\$25.40	NA
Month #4 (October 1 through October 31)	5,400	\$24.28	NA
Month #5 (November 1 through November 30)	16,500	\$23.65	NA
Month #6 (December 1 through December 31)	63,400	\$24.01	NA
Total	128,000	\$24.44	NA

All shares purchased were made in open market transactions as authorized by the Board of Directors.

Item 10. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders. There have been no changes to the procedures by which shareholders may recommend nominees to the registrant's board of directors since such procedures were last described in the

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

Corporation's proxy statement dated February 3, 2006.

Item 11. Controls and Procedures.

(a) The Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer of Central Securities Corporation (the "Corporation") have concluded that the Corporation's Disclosure Controls and Procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-2(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940) are effective based on their evaluation of the Disclosure Controls and Procedures as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of this report.

(b) There have been no changes in the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d)) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 that occurred during the second fiscal quarter of the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 12. Exhibits. (a) Any code of ethics, or amendment thereto, that is the subject of the disclosure required by Item 2, to the extent that the registrant intends to satisfy the Item 2 requirements through filing of an exhibit. Attached hereto.

(b) A separate certification for each principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant as required by Rule 30a-2 under the Act. Attached hereto.

(c) Any written solicitation to purchase securities under Rule 23c-1 under the Act sent or given during the period covered by the report by or on behalf of the registrant to 10 or more persons. Not Applicable.

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.

Central Securities Corporation

By: /s/ Wilmot H. Kidd

Wilmot H. Kidd
President

February 3, 2006
Date

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 capabilities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ Wilmot H. Kidd

Wilmot H. Kidd
President

February 3, 2006
Date

Edgar Filing: CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP - Form N-CSR

By: /s/ Charles N. Edgerton

Charles N. Edgerton
Treasurer

February 3, 2006
Date