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J C PENNEY CO INC Form 8-K January 07, 2005

following provisions:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 4, 2005

J. C. PENNEY COMPANY, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 1-15274 26-0037077
(State or other jurisdiction (Commission File No.) (I.R.S. Employer of incorporation) Identification No.)

6501 Legacy Drive Plano, Texas 75024-3698

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (972) 431-1000

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the

- [] Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- [] Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- [] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- [] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13d-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Ken C. Hicks has been promoted to the position of President and Chief Merchandising Officer of J. C. Penney Company, Inc. ("Company"), effective January 4, 2005.

Mr. Hicks, age 52, joined JCPenney in 2002 as President and Chief Operating Officer of Stores and Merchandise Operations of J. C. Penney Corporation, Inc., the Company's wholly-owned operating subsidiary. In July 2004, he was elected as an officer of the parent Company to serve in that same capacity. Prior to joining JCPenney, he served as president of Payless Shoe Source, Inc. from 1999 to 2002. He has also held senior merchandising positions at the Home Shopping Network and May Department Stores.

Item 9.01(c) Financial Statements and Exhibits

Exhibit 99 News Release dated January 4, 2005 announcing the promotion of Ken C. Hicks to the position of President and Chief Merchandising Officer of J. C. Penney Company, Inc.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

J. C. PENNEY COMPANY, INC.

By: /s/ Jeffrey J. Vawrinek
-----Jeffrey J. Vawrinek
Assistant Secretary

Date: January 7, 2005