

Edgar Filing: GENDELL JEFFREY L ET AL - Form SC 13G

GENDELL JEFFREY L ET AL
Form SC 13G
June 16, 2003

SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G*
(Rule 13d-102)

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS FILED PURSUANT
TO RULES 13d-1(b), (c) AND (d) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO FILED
PURSUANT TO 13d-2(b)

L. B. Foster Company
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock
(Title of Class of Securities)

350060109
(CUSIP Number)

June 5, 2003
(Date of event which requires filing of this statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this
Schedule 13G is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
 Rule 13d-1(c)
 Rule 13d-1(d)

(Page 1 of 10 Pages)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting
person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of
securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would
alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be
deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act
of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the
Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the
Notes).

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(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS

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I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO.
OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

Tontine Partners, L.P.

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP **

(a) [X]
(b) []

(3) SEC USE ONLY

(4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
Delaware

NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER -0-
SHARES

BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER 296,834
OWNED BY

EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-
REPORTING

PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 296,834

(9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED
BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 296,834

(10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT
IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES ** []

(11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED
BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 3.1%

(12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON **
PN

** SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO.
OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) Tontine Management, L.L.C.

(2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP **

(a) [X]
(b) []

(3) SEC USE ONLY

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| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---------|
| (4) | CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware | |
| NUMBER OF SHARES | (5) SOLE VOTING POWER | -0- |
| BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY | (6) SHARED VOTING POWER | 296,834 |
| EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH | (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER | -0- |
| | (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER | 296,834 |
| (9) | AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON | |
| | | 296,834 |
| (10) | CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES ** | [] |
| (11) | PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) | 3.1% |
| (12) | TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON ** | 00 |

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| | | |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| (1) | NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) | |
| | | Tontine Overseas Associates, L.L.C. |
| (2) | CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP ** | (a) [X] (b) [] |
| (3) | SEC USE ONLY | |
| (4) | CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware | |
| NUMBER OF SHARES | (5) SOLE VOTING POWER | -0- |

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BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER 242,865
 OWNED BY _____
 EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-
 REPORTING _____
 PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 242,865

 (9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 242,865

 (10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES ** []

 (11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 2.5%

 (12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON ** IA

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(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) Jeffrey L. Gendell

 (2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP ** (a) [X] (b) []

 (3) SEC USE ONLY

 (4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION United States

NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER -0-
 SHARES _____
 BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER 539,699
 OWNED BY _____
 EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-
 REPORTING _____
 PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

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539,699

| | | |
|------|--|---------|
| (9) | AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON | 539,699 |
| (10) | CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES ** | [] |
| (11) | PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) | 5.6% |
| (12) | TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON ** | IN |

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Item 1(a). Name of Issuer:

The name of the issuer is L. B. Foster Company (the "Company").

Item 1(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

The Company's principal executive offices are located at 415 Holiday Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15220.

Item 2(a). Name of Person Filing:

This statement is filed by:

- (i) Tontine Partners, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("TP") with respect to the shares of Common Stock directly owned by it;
- (ii) Tontine Management, L.L.C., a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware ("TM"), with respect to the shares of Common Stock directly owned by TP;
- (iii) Tontine Overseas Associates, L.L.C., a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware ("TOA"), which serves as investment manager to Tontine Overseas Fund, Ltd. ("TOF"), a company organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands, with respect to the shares of Common Stock directly owned by TOF; and
- (iv) Jeffrey L. Gendell, with respect to the shares of Common Stock directly owned by each of TP and TOF.

The foregoing persons are hereinafter sometimes collectively referred to as the "Reporting Persons." Any disclosures herein with respect to persons other than the Reporting Persons are made on information and belief after making inquiry to the appropriate party.

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Item 2(b). Address of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence:

The address of the business office of each of the Reporting Persons is 55 Railroad Avenue, 3rd Floor, Greenwich, Connecticut 06830.

Item 2(c). Citizenship:

TP is a limited partnership organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. TM and TOA are limited liability companies organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. Mr. Gendell is a United States citizen.

Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock, \$0.01 par value (the "Common Stock")

Item 2(e). CUSIP Number:

350060109

Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to Rules 13d-1(b) or 13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:

- (a) Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act,
- (b) Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act,
- (c) Insurance Company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Act,
- (d) Investment Company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940,
- (e) Investment Adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1 (b) (1) (ii) (E),
- (f) Employee Benefit Plan or Endowment Fund in accordance with 13d-1 (b) (1) (ii) (F),
- (g) Parent Holding Company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1 (b) (1) (ii) (G),
- (h) Savings Association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act,
- (i) Church Plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940,
- (j) Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b) (1) (ii) (J).

Not applicable.

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Item 4. Ownership.

A. Tontine Partners, L.P.

(a) Amount beneficially owned: 296,834

(b) Percent of class: 3.1% The percentages used herein and in the rest of Item 4 are calculated based upon the 9,577,770 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding at May 2, 2003 as reflected in the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2003.

(c) (i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-

(ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 296,834

(iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-

(iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 296,834

B. Tontine Management, L.L.C.

(a) Amount beneficially owned: 296,834

(b) Percent of class: 3.1%

(c) (i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-

(ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 296,834

(iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-

(iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 296,834

C. Tontine Overseas Associates, L.L.C.

(a) Amount beneficially owned: 242,865

(b) Percent of class: 2.5%

(c) (i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-

(ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 242,865

(iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-

(iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 242,865

D. Jeffrey L. Gendell

(a) Amount beneficially owned: 539,699

(b) Percent of class: 5.6%

(c) (i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-

(ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 539,699

(iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-

(iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 539,699

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Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

TM, the general partner of TP, has the power to direct the affairs of TP, including decisions respecting the disposition of the proceeds from the sale of the shares of the Company. Mr. Gendell is the managing member of TM and TOA, and in that capacity directs their operations. Each of the clients of TOA has the power to direct the receipt of dividends from or the proceeds of sale of such shares.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired

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the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

See Item 2.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not applicable.

Item 10. Certification.

Each of the Reporting Persons hereby makes the following certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of our knowledge and belief, the undersigned certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

DATED: June 16, 2003

/s/ JEFFREY L. GENDELL
Jeffrey L. Gendell, individually, and as
managing member of
Tontine Management, L.L.C.,
general partner of
Tontine Partners, L.P., and as
managing member of
Tontine Associates, L.L.C.