SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) September 28, 1999

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New Jersey 001-4802 22-0760120 _ _____ (State or other juris- (Commission (IRS Employer Idendiction of incorporation) File Number) tification Number)

1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417-1880 ______ (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

(201) 847-6800

N/A

(Former name or former addresses if changed since last report.)

Item 7. Exhibits

The Registrant is filing herewith the exhibit referenced in the Index of Exhibit annexed hereto and made a part hereof.

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.

> BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY (Registrant)

By: /s/ Bridget M. Healy

Bridget M. Healy

Vice President and Secretary

Date: September 29, 1999

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INDEX TO EXHIBIT

Exhibit Number

3(b) Amendment to By-Laws dated September 28, 1999.

RESOLVED, that Article II of the By-Laws of Becton, Dickinson and Company be and hereby is amended to include the addition of a new Section 2.D set forth in its entirety below:

"SECTION 2.D. ADVANCE NOTICE OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED AT ANNUAL

MEETINGS OF SHAREHOLDERS. No business may be transacted at an annual

meeting of shareholders, other than business that is either (a) specified in the notice of meeting (or any supplement thereto) given by or at the direction of the Board of Directors (or any duly authorized committee thereof), (b) otherwise properly brought before the annual meeting by or at the direction of the Board of Directors (or any duly authorized committee thereof) or (c) otherwise properly brought before the annual meeting by any shareholder of the Company (i) who is a shareholder of record on the date of the giving of the notice provided for in this Section 2.D. and on the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to vote at such annual meeting and (ii) who complies with the notice procedures set forth in this Section 2.D.

In addition to any other applicable requirements, for business to be properly brought before an annual meeting by a shareholder, such shareholder must have given timely notice thereof in proper written form to the Secretary of the Company.

To be timely, a shareholder's notice to the Secretary must be delivered to or mailed and received at the principal executive offices of the Company not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the anniversary date of the immediately preceding annual meeting of shareholders; provided however, that in the event that the annual

meeting is called for on a date that is not within 30 days before or after such anniversary date, notice by the shareholder in order to be timely must be so received not later than the close of business on the tenth day following the day on which such notice of the date of the annual meeting was mailed or such public disclosure of the date of the annual meeting was made, whichever first occurs.

To be in proper written form, a shareholder's notice to the Secretary must set forth as to each matter such shareholder proposes to bring before the annual meeting (a) a brief description of the business desired to be brought before the annual meeting and the reasons for conducting such business at the annual meeting, (b) the name and record address of such shareholder, (c) the class or series and number of shares of capital stock of the Company that are owned beneficially or of record by such shareholder, (d) a description of all arrangements or understandings between such shareholder and any other person or persons (including their names) in connection with the proposal of such business by such shareholder and any material interest of such shareholder in such business and (e) a representation that such shareholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the annual meeting to bring such business before the meeting.

No business shall be conducted at the annual meeting of shareholders except business brought before the annual meeting in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Section 2.D, provided, however, that, $\frac{1}{2}$

once business has been properly brought before the annual

meeting in accordance with such procedures, nothing in Section 2.D, shall be deemed to preclude discussion by any shareholder of any such business. If the Chairman of an annual meeting determines that business was not properly brought before the annual meeting in accordance with the foregoing procedures, the Chairman shall declare to the meeting that the business was not properly brought before the meeting and such business shall not be transacted.