

THOMSON CORP /CAN/  
Form 6-K  
May 21, 2003

[QuickLinks](#) -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

## FORM 6-K

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington DC 20549

### Report of Foreign Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of May 2003

Commission File No.: 0-29954

## THE THOMSON CORPORATION

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Metro Center, One Station Place  
Stamford, Connecticut 06902, United States  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-.

---

Information furnished on this form:

Press release dated May 21, 2003 of The Thomson Corporation entitled "The Thomson Corporation Intends to Sell Its Portfolio of Healthcare Publications".

### EXHIBIT INDEX

**Exhibit  
Number**

**Description**

---

|      |                                   |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 99.1 | Press Release dated May 21, 2003. |
|------|-----------------------------------|

**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, thereunto duly authorized.

**The Thomson Corporation**  
(Registrant)

Date: May 21, 2003

/s/ PAULA R. MONAGHAN

---

Assistant Secretary

---

QuickLinks

[EXHIBIT INDEX](#)

[SIGNATURES](#)