

Book X.
Title XXVI.

Concerning deposits in public granaries.
(De conditis in publicis horreis.)

10.26.1. Emperors Valentinian and Valens to Valusianus, City Prefect.

We want the deposits in granaries to be emptied, so that: No distribution of the grain brought to the granaries under your prefecture shall be made till the old supplies are exhausted. 1. And if an (old) supply is perchance so spoiled by age, that it cannot be distribute without causing complaint, it shall be mixed with the new, so that the spoiling may be concealed by the admixture and the fisc incur no loss. 2. For this business should be selected, according to your discretion and judgment, as custodian and measurer, a person who is honest, faithful and conscious of his integrity, who will measure the grain either by measure, or by accurate estimates determine how much there is in the granary. Given April 8 (364).

C. Th. 11.14.1.

Note.

Humbert, 2 Essai 40, says that there were primary and secondary granaries or warehouses for storage of supplies, the former for the supplies intended for immediate use, and in the immediate locality of production; the secondary warehouses in central places, in cities or stations of the public post. Each important city undoubtedly had such warehouses, not alone for the use of the citizens therein, but also for other necessary public use, as for the soldiers. The next law of this title shows that cities generally had such warehouses. And it is well known that warehouses were established along the borders of the empire where soldiers were stationed. C. 12.37.4 note. Law 1 of this title, provided, according to Gothofredus, for Rome. The capitals, Constantinople and Rome, were supplied with provisions, and distributed among the people. That subject is more fully treated at C. 11.23, and subsequent titles.

10.26.2. The same Emperors to Artemius, President.

As soon as you shall arrive at a city or post station, we want you to immediately inspect the granaries, so that clean and unspoiled food may be furnished to our devoted soldiers. For if the repairing of roofs is neglected, thru the carelessness of the staff of Your Gravity, and supplies are spoiled by reason thereof by the rains, the damage will be at your expense.

Given at Arles August 25 (364).

10.26.3. Emperors Arcadius and Honorius to Anatolius, Praetorian Prefect of Illyria.

No one shall hereafter be allowed to touch any supplies in the granaries, and if anyone presumes to invade granaries and dares to use any of the foregoing supplies, he must know that we have prescribed this penalty, namely that he shall be subjected to the punishment of deportation and shall lose all of his property.

Given at Constantinople July 9 (397).

C. Th. 11.14.3.