

Book XI.
Title XVII. (XVI)

Concerning public swine dealers, tavern-keepers, and other members of public labor associations.
(De suariis et susceptorbibus vini et ceteris corporatis.)

Headnote.

The suarii, here translated public swine dealers, formed an association and belonged to the corporati mentioned in title 15 of this book. They were subject to the liturgy to see that the city was provided with pork, particularly that the pork which certain regions were required to provide, was brought to the city, and that it was distributed in the city. They and their property were subject to this liturgy, as in the case of the bakers. These public associations, too, were confined to the capitals of the empire, though, doubtless, associations of that nature existed in all the cities. Other similar associations seem to have been subject to the liturgy of providing other kinds of meat for the capitals. Oil, meat and wine were imported into the city, in order to have it sold cheaply or for free distribution of the people. Ordinarily, however, free distribution seems to have been confined to bread. See C. 11.23 et seq. As grain was supplied from Africa and Egypt, so other regions were required to send other supplies.

Wine dealers (caupones) were here called receivers of wine (susceptores vini) probably because of the fact that they were required to see that the city was properly supplied. Free distribution of wine was not, however, ordinarily made, unless on special occasions. Nothing is mentioned in the laws of this title except as to swine-dealers, but Cujacius thinks that the same rules here mentioned should be applied to the other public labor associations -- corporati.

11.17.1. Emperors Valentinian, Theodosius and Arcadius to Albinus, City Prefect.

Since public swine dealers (porcinarii) of the eternal city devote their earnest efforts to the interests of the Roman people, they shall be always free from sordid liturgies.¹

Given August 25 (389).

C. Th. 14. 4. 6.

11.17.2. Emperors Arcadius and Honorius to Florentinus, City Prefect.

Whatever member of the association of public swine dealers, by reason of the necessity of answering a suit against him, or provoked to bring one on his own accord, wants to go to court, shall await the hearing before the city prefect.

(about 395-397).

Note.

That superiors had criminal and civil jurisdiction in cases in which subordinates were involved is shown at note to C. 3.13.7. The guilds and labor associations in cities were under the supervision of the city prefect.

¹ [Blume] As to these liturgies, see headnote C. 10.42.