c. Leder and Schuhindustrie

Tanning is a major industrial branch of Constantinople in Gasli Tschesme, Yedikule and military tanneries in Beikos on the Bosporus). Often using traditional outmoded methods it has been a difficult struggle to compete with European imports, who were only hampered by a low import tax. Therefore, its development has been uneven and has only recently shown a rapid upswing.

The largest part of the hides the slaughterhouses in Constantinople deliver. The million city inhabitants has a massive meat consumption, the French trade chamber estimated it in 1911 to be at:

sheep and goats 1130 000 head
lambs 115 000 "
oxen 96 000 "
calves 31 000 "
buffalo and camels 10 000 "
pigs 1 000 "

total 1 393 000 head

It seems feasible that such a slaughter result would supply the hides needed for the enterprise. This, however, is not the case, because on the one hand the poorly fed inland animals (end of page 444) do not always produce a good quality or suitable hide, and on the other hand, these are often torn or poorly (abgeballgt?), and so the local tanneries do not know what to do with them. While therefore a large portion of the hide production of the country goes to foreign
the latter having been in existence for 40 years as of June, 1911, it was established with a capital outlay of 22,000 L�q. and 5 L�q.

**Schuhindustrie.** The city has numerous skilled and diligent shoemakers, of which the Turks, as in most other handwork trades, have formed a guild. The masters, assisted by a troop of apprentices, most do not own a sewing machine, and yet they produce all sorts of shoe apparel ranging from slippers to high riding boots. (end of page 446) The solid beautiful work causes most buyers to rather pay the 20–30 Fr. for a pair of boots, rather than squander 9–11 Fr. for a pair made in a foreign factory, for there is often an unwarranted mistrust for these foreign products. As with the saddler, various industrious shoemakers have adjusted to the new fashions and so compete with the foreign competition. Here, as with the latter discussed lumber and metal industries, we have the example how inorganic the development of Turkish business was. It is characteristic that either only inferior wares with a depressed standard for the Turkish handwork was produced to prevent its destruction, or first rate wares with an artistic characteristic capability was produced which, however, could be adjusted to contemporary taste.

The 1907-08 figures point to around 37,215,720 Piaster for leather and shoewares, mainly leather, being exported, despite the domestic tanneries, the largest portion of the shoe industry was imported.

One aspect of imported shoes was declining,
shoes, purses, binding, etc.. The goat skins are used for black and colored Chagrinleder. These leathers (end of page 445) are very cheap, allowing it to conquer the Turkish market despite their inferior quality. A by-product is the wool and fleece of the slaughtered sheep and goats (Kassape baschi), these are exported to England. Some sheep and goat leather is exported to America.

Also, cow, oxen and buffalo hides are worked, as are beef nd calf leather, as well as pantent leather are worked, these are used by the numerous shoe and sattlemakers of the city. The annual production is estimated to be 1 1/2 mill. kg.. Most of these beef and calf leathers are of an inferior quality; they have, however, due to their low price, pushed aside the ordinary Italian wares.

According to Austrian Hungarian consular reports of 1914 there were in exisstance in the area of Constantinople, in Yedikule, about 10 tanneries, powered by steam. In contrast to modern European leather factories, which use the modern process of chromium dyes, buffalo and cow hides are worked, that is either for sole leather or upper leather (Vachetten).

The rising attention for these industries which we have pointed to, still in the hands of the inexperienced worker who still uses primitive methods, has recently been more enterprising, unfortunately, I found out only a few facts about these. Next to the military tanneries in Beikos there are only the enterprises Mariano in Yedikule and above all the Societe anonyme Ottomane de tannerie - Altoun Yapaghin,
countries, another portion of the hide needs of the tanneries are covered by foreign producers. For the most part these come over Hamburg, later over Antwerp and Havre, and all originated in America. Even hides from India are used.

Also, the other raw and supplementary materials, tanning extract and fish oil, which is necessary for some types, such as patent leather and black leather, can be found in large quantities inside the land. Oak and pine bark and the tanning rich Valoneen(?), which has recently been a large export article for Asia Minor, can be found in abundance. Yet, tanning materials are still brought in from France, Italy and Hamburg. Such needed acids, ammonias, potashes and lime come from Germany and France, the dyes without exception from Germany. The fish oil is brought from Trapezunt, which the Lasen? from dolphins and guinea-pigs extracted. However, it appears that the Japanese fishoil industry is replacing the domestic industry.

First the sheep and goat skins are worked. The sheep skins, only a few are used, is mainly used for lining or covering the shoes, and is dyed with beautiful anilin colors. More and more these leathers are pushed aside by French wares. Dyed leather can be distinguished by trachli (glaring dyes) the better qualities to trachsing (few dyes), a lesser quality. Also from the sheep skins glossy and patent leathers are made as well as mat and goat leather imitations are produced. Sheep leather, in addition to lining for shoes is also made into houseshoes, childrens
shoe factories until recent times were not a precedence. Only recently a privately owned shoe factory was established. Only a military shoe factory existed since 1909, in 1912 using soldiers as a labor force, 250-300 pair of boots were produced daily. In Beikos an even larger military shoe factory was established in 1912, which can produced 1000 pairs of shoes daily. It is connected to a mill and a tannery, and uses only German machines for its business and factory.

_Sattlerei, Wagenbau._ Still to mention is the capacity of saddleries, which sell their good articles in the bazaars. Produced are belts, ammunition and weapons satchels, saddle articles and wagon harnesses, and lately luggage and backpacks according to English patterns. Building of wagons, coaches, etc. (end of page 447) is also as lively as the needed leather articles; especially in Saratch Hane. Skilled craftsmen have taken on repairs of bicycles and build new ones from old parts.

_Kürschnererei._ Various furs worn throughout the country, such as sheep, fox and wolf pelts are produced in Constantinople. Fur coats are skillfully made from mainly left over imported European fur layers. These home produced furs are of an inferior quality, the better quality is imported from Europe.

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