

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

THE chapters preceding this have given an account of the occupations of the working force in the major sectors of the district's economy like agriculture, industry, banking, trade and commerce, transport and communications. But there is an appreciable segment of the population, which earns its income from other pursuits, remains still to be accounted for. They render useful services to the people in a variety of ways and produce essential goods for daily consumption. A considerable number of them live in the urban areas as the chances of getting suitable employment in the rural parts are not many. With the growth of urbanisation in recent decades, the miscellaneous occupations have also grown helping to stabilise the economic fabric of the area. No detailed survey, either sociological or economic, has been made about these various occupational groups and in the absence of such a survey, any attempt to describe these groups would inevitably be limited in scope.

Out of the total population of the Hassan district, which was 8,95,947 as per the 1961 census, 4,23,738 or less than a half were classified as workers, of whom as many as 25,424 or about six per cent of the total working population of the district were following other occupations that have not been so far dealt with in the previous chapters. Among them 11,348 or 44.64 per cent pursued their work in the urban areas, Hassan, Arsikere and Sakleshpur claiming the largest number. But still a fairly larger percentage of 55.36 lived in the rural parts. The taluk-wise distribution of these persons in 1961 was as follows :—

Taluk	Male workers	Percen- tage	Female workers	Percen- tage	Total	Total	
						Percen- tage	Percen- tage*
Alur ..	874	4.34	255	4.82	1,129	4.44	0.27
Arkalgud ..	1,791	8.89	579	10.95	2,370	9.32	0.56
Arsikere ..	4,344	21.57	1,216	23.03	5,560	21.87	1.31
Belur ..	1,795	8.91	537	10.16	2,332	9.21	0.55
Channarayapatna	2,040	10.13	389	7.36	2,429	9.56	0.57
Hassan ..	4,650	23.09	886	16.76	5,536	21.78	1.31
Holenarsipur ..	1,606	7.98	337	6.38	1,943	7.64	0.46
Manjarabad ..	2,039	15.09	1,086	20.54	4,125	16.18	0.97
Total	19,139	..	5,235	..	25,424	..	6.00

*Percentage of column 6, i.e., Total to the total working force of the district.

Public Adminis-
tration Service

A considerable number of persons are employed in the several branches of the public administration. This includes persons working in various offices under State Government, semi-Government institutions and Union Government. In 1951, there were 367 persons in the police force, 125 persons in municipalities and local boards and 1,627 persons in State Government offices and administrative departments. There were 566 persons in the police force, 232 persons in administrative departments and offices of the Central Government, 2,194 persons under State Government, 979 persons in quasi-Government organisations like municipalities, local boards, etc., as per 1961 census.

The above figures show a gradual increase in the employment opportunities in this field. The number of persons employed in the State Government offices in the district for the years 1957, 1962, 1965 and 1968 was as follows * :—

Sl. No.	Year	Number of employees			
		Gazetted	Non-Gazetted	Class IV	Total
1.	As on 31st March 1957	72	3,885	1,250	5,207
2.	As on 31st March 1962	94	5,780	1,432	7,306
3.	As on 31st March 1965	89	6,075	1,218	7,382
4.	As on 31st March 1968	130	4,138	1,360	5,628

In the above table, the figures in respect of gazetted and non-gazetted employees show a decrease in the number of persons employed since 1962; but, actually it is not so. According to the Bureau of Economics and Statistics, these are not complete figures, as several offices had not furnished the required particulars to the authorities conducting the census. It was stated that the non-response from various offices in the State in submitting the required data worked out to be about 10 per cent in 1962, 16 per cent in 1963, 18 per cent in 1965, and 32.21 per cent in 1968; the survey work for 1966 could not be completed. (After 1968, it was decided to take the census once in three years).

A large number of these employees work in the district headquarters town. For instance, in 1968, as many as 2,114 were in Hassan town, of whom 21 were Class I Officers, 47 Class II Officers, 1,435 Class III officials and 611 Class IV staff. The Government employees feel secure in their employment and income as they are not exposed to fluctuations in their income to their

*Census of Mysore Government Employees conducted by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics.

disadvantage. From time to time their emoluments have been increased so as to enable them, as far as possible, to meet the increased cost of living. The latest upward revision effected was in 1970.

The learned professions include medicine, education, **Learned** legal profession, arts and letters, etc. A brief account of each of **Professions** these occupations is given below :—

Medical profession.—The number of persons following the medical profession has shown a remarkable increase during the last few decades in this district. The 1921 Census recorded 106 medical practitioners of all kinds including dentists and veterinary surgeons, 78 midwives, vaccinators, compounders, nurses, etc. In 1931, the number of medical practitioners and dentists had risen to 120 and that of midwives, vaccinators, compounders, nurses, etc., to 148. The Census of 1951 recorded 150 medical practitioners including *vaidyas* and *hakims* and dentists, 167 midwives, vaccinators, compounders, nurses, etc., besides 261 persons employed in hospitals or other public or private establishments rendering medical or health services. By 1961, the number of medical practitioners had risen to 259, while that of midwives, vaccinators, compounders, nurses, nursing attendants and health visitors to 691, besides 188 other technicians. During that year there was one doctor for every 2,500 persons in the district. The medical profession, in general, is found to be a lucrative one and is attracting an increasing number of persons. The income of a private medical practitioner may range from Rs. 500 to Rs. 3,000 in the district. (For details in respect of medical associations see Chapter XVI).

Legal profession.—The legal profession has been drawing to its fold an increasing number of persons since the beginning of this century. The profession may not be particularly lucrative in the beginning. But the fact of its being an independent profession with plenty of opportunities to make a mark in public life, makes it attractive to ambitious young men. In 1921, there were only 36 lawyers with ten clerks and petition-writers. The 1931 census recorded 67 lawyers and 29 clerks and petition-writers. The 1951 census recorded the number of practising lawyers at 65 and clerks and petition-writers at 27. Thereafter, in ten years, (as per the 1961 census) the number of jurists rose to 132, of whom 92 were legal practitioners and advisers.

The young lawyer, who wants to enter the profession, usually works as a junior under an established and reputed advocate and after gaining some experience sets up an independent practice. He invests a few thousands of rupees over law books, law journals and judgement copies of different courts. Not all lawyers in the district are having good practice. The success in the profession depends upon his capacity to build up a good clientele. The

lawyer's income may range from Rs. 500 to Rs. 3,000. The lawyers' clerks generally get a monthly salary ranging from Rs. 75 to Rs. 200. In cases of appeals to the High Court, the local lawyers generally direct their clients to advocates at Bangalore, instead of they themselves appearing for them. (For details in respect of bar associations see Chapter XII).

Teaching profession.—There has been a tremendous increase in the number of persons in the teaching profession. In 1921, there were 957 professors and teachers of all kinds, besides 64 clerks and servants connected with education. By 1931, the number of professors and teachers of all kinds rose to 977 and that of clerks and servants to 241. The 1951 census recorded 2,276 professors, lecturers and teachers of all kinds and 206 persons under 'other services' connected with education. By 1961 the number of persons working in the teaching line had increased to 3,780, of whom 64 were employed in the institutions of higher education, 489 in secondary schools, 2,767 in middle and primary schools and 432 in other schools. By the end of 1968, the professors and lecturers in the institutions of higher education numbered 187, while the number of secondary school teachers was 586, senior primary and primary schools had 3,811 teachers. These figures are an eloquent indication of the strides made by education between 1921 and 1968. There are, at present, six colleges, one polytechnic, a training institute, 71 secondary schools and 1,804 primary schools. Persons working in private schools feel better than before since their salaries are being paid through banks by the Department of Public Instruction. Consequent on the implementation of the recommendations of the recent Pay Commission, the economic condition of the teachers is now much improved.

Arts and Letters.—There were 243 artists, writers and related workers in the district in 1961. Of these, 66 were actors and related workers and 89 were musicians and related workers. The total figure includes editors, poets and journalists also whose activities are allied in nature. While some of these persons entirely depend on the profession for their living, many have taken these professions as subsidiary occupations. In 1921, the number of musicians and players on all kinds of musical instruments was 90. It is noteworthy that the number of persons in this category has not increased in the past four decades. This may be attributed to the fact that the profession does not as yet command a steady and dependable income.

Domestic Services

Under this group, domestic servants, cooks, maids and the like are included. The total number of persons engaged in this group as in 1961, was 2,384, of whom 1,945 were men and 439 women. There were 704 cooks and cook-bearers (domestic and institutional), of whom 100 were women. Only persons belonging to the higher-income groups and middle-income groups are able

to employ domestic servants. Many of these workers are provided with food and clothing and sometimes shelter also. The level of wages paid to them varied between Rs. 25 and Rs. 40 per month excluding food and clothing. The rates of wages would be higher in respect of those who are not given food and clothing.

According to the 1961 census figures there were 6,190 working proprietors in the district, who were self-employed in their shops managing their own shops and other business establishments, as also various production units. Of these, as many as 5,671 persons, including 302 women, were engaged in retail trade. A majority of these persons were in the urban areas where there are chances of having a better business. Among the persons engaged in wholesale trade, there were more women (313) than men (206), all of whom were in the rural areas. A good number of paid employees work under these proprietors on monthly wages who assist them in their business. Some of the working proprietors are also financing agents. **Working proprietors**

Among the workers engaged in other occupations of a professional type, it was recorded in the 1961 census that there were 439 ordained and non-ordained religious workers, and 78 astrologers, palmists and related workers.

The hotel and restaurant business, in the district of Hassan, in which a considerable number of persons are engaged, compares favourably with that of contiguous districts. According to the Labour Officer, Hassan, there were, by the end of 1969, 227 hotels and restaurants in the eight taluk headquarter towns, providing employment to about 1,004 workers. In a small village like Kurubathur, in Manjarabad taluk, where there were only 16 households engaged in 'other services' in 1961, the hotel industry provided employment to six households, five of which had taken it as their main occupation. In 1969, the total number of establishments in Hassan town was 102 with 456 workers while the corresponding figures for Arsikere were 19 and 43 respectively. The establishment in Arsikere town are found to be concentrated in the bazaar area, particularly on both sides of the State Highway. **Hotels and Restaurants**

Both paid employees and family members are engaged in this business which can provide employment throughout the year and accommodate even unskilled and illiterate workers. The hotels and restaurants in the district are run mostly in rented buildings. The better class hotels which provide a standard of comfort and cleanliness are found in urban areas only. Self-service hotels are not to be seen in Hassan or any other town of the district. In Hassan and Arsikere towns, there are several residential hotels, where lodging facilities of a moderate standard are provided.

The working capital investment for a hotel is more than that of a restaurant. The minimum initial capital required for establishing a small hotel in a town, which serves also meals to its customers, is estimated to be between Rs. 4,000 and Rs. 10,000. The minimum equipment of such an average hotel consists of about 20 chairs and tables, some eating plates and spoons, small cups and cooking utensils. In larger establishments finer varieties of this equipment are provided along with a refrigerator, sofa sets for the customers to take rest after they take their meals and the like.

Among the workers, men are assigned jobs of cooking food and preparing other dishes, boys for serving and cleaning the tables, while women are employed mostly for washing utensils and cleaning rice, pulses and other grains. In a few establishments managers are employed and they are paid between Rs. 75 to Rs. 150 per month with food. The average salary of other workers ranges from Rs. 40 to Rs. 120 besides two meals a day and a set of clothes a year. In these establishments a return of at least ten per cent is assured. In some of them, there are regular boarders on a monthly basis. Monthly boarding charges vary from Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 whereas a single meal costs 0.85 paise to Rs. 1-50. The total monthly charges of boarding and lodge varies from Rs. 90 to Rs. 120. For the casual lodgers, the rate for lodge varies from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 according to the comforts provided. The number of casual lodgers in Hassan, Arsikere and Sakleshpur towns is large, while the same is small in other towns of the district. According to the 1961 census, the number of persons employed as house-keepers, cooks, maid servants and related workers in hotels and restaurants stood at 2,334.

Bakeries

There were, in 1969, 18 establishments at Hassan and 13 at Arsikere for the manufacture of bread, biscuits and cakes. Most of the bakeries in these towns are family establishments where the owners themselves work with the help of the members of their families. In the establishments at Arsikere there were 26 paid workers. This business also provides employment throughout the year.

The equipment of an ordinary bakery consists of a large wooden table to prepare the dough, an oven with its accessory equipments like tin trays, small iron sheet boxes, moulds, cupboards and baskets. The cost of the equipment is between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 1,500 or more depending upon the size of the establishment. The rent for the room or rooms would be about Rs. 50. Only three establishments in Hassan town use modern machines. In such establishments the initial capital investment goes up to about Rs. 8,000. Some of the bakers prepare biscuits, cakes, etc.

The equipment of a better class tailoring establishment consists mainly of sewing machines, scissors, cutting tables, cup-boards, mirrors, ironing boxes, costing in all about Rs. 2,000. Sewing machines are generally purchased on instalment basis. The monthly working capital for the purchase of threads, buttons, lining cloth, etc., and maintenance of machine is estimated to be about Rs. 50 in respect of small establishments where only one man works, and about Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 in the case of larger ones. Usually, the shops engaged in tailoring do not keep any cloth for sale, but stitch the cloth provided by the customers. However, a few larger establishments, which have prospered in this occupation, have also been supplementing their income, by selling ready-made garments. Some of the tailors are specialised in

In 1961, the district had, in all, 2,428 tailors, cutters, and related workers, of whom 1,361 lived in the towns and the rest in the rural areas. In Kurubathur village, which had 59 households with a total population of 367 persons in 1961, five households out of 16 households which were classified under 'other services', followed tailoring as their occupation. Of these five households, three were following it as their main occupation. A majority of the tailoring shops in the district are small establishments where the owners, with the help of one or two relatives, carry on the work. To many of these persons tailoring is a hereditary occupation. There are quite a large number of one-man establishments. Those who cannot afford to have independent shops of their own keep their machines in front of cloth shops and pay Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 each per month to the owners of those shops for having given them space. This occupation provides employment throughout the year. However, there will be brisker business during the marriage and festival seasons. In the *malnad* parts the business is slack during the rainy season.

The main raw materials required are wheat-flour, sugar, yeast and butter. The cost of the raw materials in an ordinary establishment varies from Rs. 15 to Rs. 50 per day. The other items of expenditure of an average unit works out to about Rs. 450 per month, of which a considerable part goes towards the cost of fuel and light charges and rent for the building. About 40 to 50 Kgs. of bread, 5 to 10 Kgs. of biscuits, about two dozen cakes and 5 to 6 Kgs. of buns are prepared in a day in a medium-sized establishment which works for eight hours a day, the selling value of the total quantity prepared being about Rs. 70. Generally, only members of the family work in a bakery and in a few cases one or two workers are also employed, and they are paid from Rs. 60 to Rs. 100. The net income derived from a bakery ranges from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 per month. The demand for bread is not yet large or stable and is subject to fluctuations. Because of this position, there does not appear yet sufficient incentive for the owners to develop their business on a larger and more profitable scale.

Tailoring

cutting the cloth according to prescribed measurements and also in designing ready-made garments, while some others are specialists in the work of stitching woollen or silk coats and trousers. Boys, who are taken as apprentices, are given piece works like packing, pressing, hemming and preparing of button-holes and stitching of buttons and later on they are taught stitching. The charge for stitching a cotton suit varies from Rs. 6.50 to Rs. 15 while that for a woollen suit or any other suit of costly cloth varies from Rs. 50 to Rs. 80. Some tailors who work under a master tailor receive 0.30 to 0.40 paise out of every rupee they earn while others work on the basis of daily wages which vary from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5.

Hair-cutting Saloons

There were 41 hair-cutting saloons in Hassan town and 36 in Arsikere town in 1968-69. The total number of workers in them was about 196, out of whom more than half were paid employees, the rest being the owners and the members of their own families. According to the 1961 census, there were 789 barbers and related workers, of whom 366 lived in the urban areas, while the 1921 census had recorded 351 barbers and their number had increased to 536 by 1951. In towns the barbers' shops are distributed over most of the localities. In a majority of cases, the establishments are small. Most of them are housed in rented rooms, the rent ranging from about Rs. 20 to Rs. 60 per month.

The equipment consists of chairs, big mirrors, scissors, razors and cropping instruments and toilet articles. The cost of the equipment ranges from about Rs. 300 of very small shops to about Rs. 1,000 of medium-sized ones, while it may be about Rs. 2,000 in a very few cases. The average daily expenditure on toilet requirements in an average saloon would be between Rs. 2.50 and Rs. 6. The number of customers served daily by these establishments depends much upon the number of persons working therein. Sometimes, subjective factors like the popularity of the owner, the conveniences and comforts offered and the general reputation of the saloon play a part in determining the number of customers served.

On a rough estimate, the monthly earnings of an adult employee may be between Rs. 75 to Rs. 100 in the case of small establishments and about Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 in the case of bigger establishments. The old practice of barbers going to the houses of the customers and rendering services is still prevalent in rural parts and partly in towns. Each bigger saloon entertains one or two apprentices who are paid negligible wages in the beginning. The monthly net income of a small-sized establishment, where a single man works, may be estimated to be between Rs. 100 and Rs. 125, while that of a medium sized-establishment may be from about Rs. 150 to Rs. 250. It would be about Rs. 400 in the case of a few bigger ones. The work of barbers becomes necessary also

at certain Hindu religious ceremonies like *chudakkarma* and funerals. A few of these barbers are supplementing their income by taking to the practice of instrumental music, particularly *nagaswara*.

According to the 1961 Census, there were 687 laundries, dry cleaners and pressers. Most of the laundries are family concerns,

where the owners carry on the business assisted by the members of their families and only the bigger establishments make use of hired labour. The equipment in the case of medium-sized establishments consists of a couple of ironing boxes, one or two show cases for keeping washed clothes, a large table for ironing; the total cost of this equipment varies from Rs. 250 to Rs. 600. The working capital for the purchase of charcoal, soap, petrol, washing soda, and bleaching substances is estimated to be between Rs. 75 and Rs. 150 per month. The majority of the laundries are housed in one or two rented rooms. The monthly rent varies from Rs. 15 to Rs. 50 in places like Hassan and Arsikere and less in other towns. In the rural areas, the washermen are paid sometimes in kind while in most cases the washermen collect the clothes to be washed and deliver them back; in a few cases the clothes are sent to and obtained back from the laundries by the customers themselves. The occupation, which is mostly hereditary in character, provides full-time employment throughout the year, but the business is usually slack during the rainy season. The rate charged per clothe is about 12 to 15 paise for ordinary wash and about 25 to 30 paise for urgent wash. The income of a laundry ranges from about Rs. 100 to Rs. 500 depending upon the size of the business.

Carpentry has been an age-old industry in the district. A **Carpentry**

large number of carpenters in the villages manufacture agricultural implements and attend to their repair works also. According to the 1961 census, there were 2,382 carpenters and related workers, of whom 766 persons lived in the urban areas. These carpenters work either in their houses or in the sheds attached to their houses. Many of them work under master craftsmen who pay them daily wages. Most of these shops are located in rented rooms, the rent ranging from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 or more according to their location. The implements required like chisel, hammer, saw, etc., would cost about Rs. 100 to Rs. 200. The rates of wages depend upon the skill of the workers and also vary from place to place. A well-skilled worker earns from Rs. 4 to Rs. 7 per day, whereas a less-skilled worker would get about Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 4 per day. Boys are taken as helpers who attend to minor works.

According to the 1961 census, the number of goldsmiths in the district was 1,333. In Hassan town, there were about 50 goldsmithy and jewellery establishments in the year 1968-69. Except small villages, all places have these smiths. Most of them have taken this as hereditary occupation.

The equipment of a goldsmith is simple consisting of an anvil, bellows, hammers, crucibles, moulds and a cupboard and sometimes a show case. The cost of this equipment would be about Rs. 350 in the case of smaller establishments and about Rs. 1,000 or more in respect of larger ones. The raw materials like gold and silver are provided either by the customers or by the jewellers themselves. Goldsmiths make and mend gold and silver ornaments, set gems and work in precious stones. Sometimes, silver vessels are also made. Necklaces, ear-rings and rings, nose-screws are some of the common ornaments prepared by goldsmiths. There is division of labour in some large establishments, skilled work being done by persons having good training and previous experience. Individual establishments are housed in the respective houses of goldsmiths, while larger ones possess shops located in the bazaar streets. Goldsmiths get orders from individual customers and big jewellers and in the latter case, the articles are made usually on piece rate basis. Skilled workers and experienced craftsmen earn about Rs. 150 to Rs. 250 a month, while the monthly earnings of an ordinary worker may be about Rs. 100. Due to the introduction of gold control measures in 1963, many of these goldsmiths were affected. The Government have been helping them by way of free grant of lands for agricultural purposes, providing education and training facilities in useful arts for their children, granting liberal loans for running cottage industries, etc. However, the recent relaxations of the gold control measures have mitigated their hardships.

Blacksmithy

Blacksmithy, like carpentry, is also an old industry found over all parts of the district. In 1961, there were 890 blacksmiths and related workers. Among these, 635 workers lived in rural parts, where they got much work from the cultivators. They are engaged in manufacturing and repairing agricultural implements like plough-share, sickle, weeding-hook, etc. The work involves hard manual labour besides skill.

The equipment of a blacksmith consists of a big anvil, hammers of different sizes, bellows, furnace, etc., costing about from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,500. The work involves certain amount of division of labour wherein at least three persons are required to carry on the work, *viz.*, a hammer-man, a forger and a man to handle the bellows. They usually work in sheds attached to their houses. In rural areas the work is largely seasonal and they have brisk work during the time of preparatory tillage and again at the harvest season. During the remaining part of the year, he gets work like making and repairing of rings for the wheels of the carts and other accessories of the carts as also household equipment. They usually prepare articles on demand but they sometimes manufacture plough-shares, sickles, hooks, etc., in anticipation of demand and take them to the nearby market town or fair for sale. In the villages the old practice was to pay blacksmiths in kind, but

now they are generally paid in cash. On an average, a blacksmith earns about Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 a day.

Tinsmithy is not the main occupation of those who are engaged in it, since they combine jobs like repairing of stoves, umbrellas, locks and trunks with the work of tinning. A few of them while moving about from village to village, also purchase empty bottles and such other articles from households and later sell them in the market. Individual tinsmiths sit on the footpaths of a street and do tinning of vessels of their customers. The equipment of a tinsmith is simple, consisting of hammers, scissors, anvil and bellows, costing about Rs. 30 to Rs. 50. The cost of raw materials like tin, charcoal and sulphuric acid would be about Rs. 30 a month. They undertake also orders of making kerosene lamps cut out of tin and supply them to the shops. The net income of a tinsmith may range from Rs. 80 to Rs. 150 a month. **Tinsmithy**

Manufacture of earthenware is one of the oldest hereditary occupations. Out of the total number of 1,506 potters and related clay formers, as enumerated in 1961, in the district, as many as 1,160 persons lived in the rural parts, where the demand for their products is large. Availability of fine clay in the vicinity of the village or town is of much importance to them as it reduces the cost of transport. The work is carried on with the help of potters' wheel in their houses or in sheds attached to their houses, where the members of the family work together. The finished products are sold locally or in nearby villages and towns for cash and sometimes kind. In order to make 200 pots, each costing, on an average, about 40 paise, it would take about 15 days for two persons, working continuously on the wheel. For burning these pots, they require at least six to eight head-loads of *soragu* (fuel) which is commonly used, the cost of each head-load being about 50 paise. *Nada-henchu* or country tiles are also manufactured and sold at the rate of Rs. 100 per thousand tiles. For preparing 1,000 tiles, they require about three cartloads of fine clay, each cartload costing about Rs. 12 to Rs. 15. With this, two persons have to work at least for seven days continuously to produce 1,000 tiles. This would work out to about Rs. 4 per day per worker. But there is not enough demand for these tiles for keeping them engaged in this particular work throughout the year. Further, the demand for earthenware is on the decline owing to availability of aluminium articles at a cheap price. The average daily earning of a potter may range from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 3.00. **Pottery**

The district of Hassan had 2,464 spinners, weavers, knitters, dyers and related workers in 1961, of whom 1,492 were females. Out of the total number of workers, as many as 1,817 persons lived in the rural parts. Included in this total figure were 1,106 drawers and weavers, 629 spinners, piecers and winders. Though these workers are distributed all over the district, a large number of them **Spinners and weavers**

are found in Holenarsipur taluk. In 1964, it was estimated that there were 3,527 handlooms, besides power-looms. The equipment required for this trade consists of looms, spinning wheels, warping and dobbie machines, electric motor, spindles, etc. The initial cost of the equipment of a medium-sized establishment varies from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 5,000. The raw materials required consist of yarn, oil, wax, jari, etc., costing about Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,250. There is scope for division of labour and specialisation among weavers and spinners. On an average, a worker earns about Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per day. (For more details, *see* Chapter V).

**Leather
workers**

The total number of leather workers in the district in 1961 was 688, of whom 238 were shoe-makers and shoe-repairers. Some of the cobblers sit at the end of the street in a busy place and attend to minor repairs. Sometimes, members of their families assist them in their work. Several others work in shoe-shops on daily wage basis. In urban areas, sometimes one or two or more persons work under a master craftsman. Such a shop is housed in a rented room, the rent varying from Rs. 15 to Rs. 35 depending upon the location of the shop. The tools and appliances in use, consisting of punches, hammers, scissors, iron spikes, wooden blocks and scrapers, would cost about Rs. 100 to Rs. 300. The working capital required for the purchase of raw materials could be valued at Rs. 200 to Rs. 250 a month in the case of medium-sized shops. A few of them borrow their working capital from co-operative societies. In certain cases, where paid workers are employed, they are paid on the basis of piece-rates. On an average, a worker earns from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 per day.

**Plantation
workers**

There is a considerable number of workers employed in plantations. They have been already referred to in the chapter on agriculture. The plantations, which are of a special importance to the district's economy, employ a large number of workers. According to the 1961 census, there were 1,659 planters and plantation managers and 18,355 plantation labourers. The wages of plantation workers are paid in accordance with an industry-wide settlement (under Section 12(3) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947). In addition to the wages, these workers get free house, free medical aid, maternity benefits, bonus, sickness allowance and travelling allowance when they go to their native places. Recreation facilities and proper drinking water facilities are also provided. It is stated that the cost of these amenities works out to Re. 0.75 to Rs. 1.25 per day per worker. The daily wage rates for workers, according to a recent settlement, range from Rs. 2.65 to Rs. 3.00 for men, Rs. 2.12 to Rs. 2.40 for women and Rs. 1.33 to Rs. 1.50 for children in coffee estates covering 50 acres and above. The wage rates are slightly less in estates of less than 50 acres.

The members of the staff of the plantation establishments, including managers and other officers of special grades, are paid

from Rs. 189 to Rs. 697 by large estates, from Rs. 189 to Rs. 401 by the medium-sized estates and Rs. 147 to Rs. 328 by the small estates.

The number of bicycles in use has been steadily increasing both in the urban and the rural parts of the district. A big bicycle shop, on an average, has about 15 to 20 bicycles for hire, each costing between Rs. 150 and Rs. 300. In addition to giving the bicycles on hire, they undertake repair works also. The other equipments of these shops consist of spanners, air-pump, screw drivers, hammers, solution, grease and also spare parts like tyres, tubes, bells and seats. The value of all these equipments in the case of larger establishments may be estimated from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 10,000 and in the case of the smaller ones between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000. The minimum working capital besides the initial investment required varies from Rs. 250 to Rs. 500. Generally, boys are employed in these shops and in some cases one or two labourers are also employed and about four to six workers in larger ones. Boys are paid from Rs. 25 to Rs. 45 per month, while the other labourers get from Rs. 2.00 to Rs. 4.00 per day. Bicycle hire charges are calculated in terms of the time of its use or for the entire day; 10 paise per hour is being charged for every bicycle and Rs. 1.50 for the entire day. The hiring out of gas lights (petromaxes) is an ancillary business of some of these establishments. The hire charges in such cases vary from Rs. 1-50 to Rs. 2-00 per gas light for a night's use. Recently several new units have sprung up in the Hassan and Arsikere towns resulting in a severe competition.

Bicycle shops

According to the 1961 census, there were 2,047 workers in transport and communication occupations, of whom as many as 1,506 persons lived in the urban parts where the demand for their work was great. Of the total number of workers, 966 were drivers in road transport and 619 were motor vehicle drivers. In addition to these, 220 workers were engaged in repairing of the vehicles; a good number of repairing works are found in Arsikere and Hassan towns. Their minimum equipment consists of lathes, battery charging plants, electric drills, tools, jacks and testing instruments, costing in all, about Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 in a small establishment and about Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 or even more in the case of a large establishment. The other articles required are charcoal, petrol, tin sheets, steel wires, paints and varnishes, nuts and bolts and white metal for soldering, their cost coming to about Rs. 100 to Rs. 400. The working capital required varies roughly from Rs. 250 to Rs. 1,000. The workers employed in these units are blacksmiths, welders and fitters. Ordinarily, a skilled worker earns from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6 per day and an unskilled worker from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 2.50.

Transport workers

Basket-making

Basket and mat-weaving have been among the oldest occupations in the rural parts of the district. The 1961 Census enumerated 1,579 persons as engaged in basket-making and related works, of whom as many as 1,096 were females. They make baskets out of bamboo and mats from the leaves of date palms. (See also Chapter V).

Stone quarrying and cutting

In 1961, there were 1,030 stone cutters, stone carvers and stone dressers; of these, 168 lived in the urban areas. The work of stone-quarrying and cutting is the hereditary occupation of the *voddars*, while there are also some individual workers in the field. A large number of them work under master craftsmen, who are petty contractors, or under bigger contractors. The district is famous for potstones of the Pushpagiri hills situated near Halebid which are used for construction purposes. The equipment required for this occupation consists of hammer, chisel, tape and levelling instrument, all costing about Rs. 50. A cart for carrying the stones would cost from about Rs. 350 to Rs. 650. The average earning of a worker is between Rs. 2 and Rs. 4 per day. The net income of a petty contractor who owns a cart may be from about Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 a month. During the rainy season, many of these workers work as labourers on the fields.

A statement showing the occupational classification of persons at work, other than cultivation, in the district, as in 1961, is given in the Appendices-General.
