

UNION LABOUR AND STRIKES.

The strike situation in the United States has involved numerous appeals to the courts, and many interesting and important decisions as to the rights of union labour and the relations between employer and employee have been rendered. At no time have these relations been so strained as at the present. The subject recently came before the courts in a California case, which is worth referring to. Application was made to the Superior Court of San Francisco by the owner of a restaurant for an injunction restraining the Cooks' and Waiters' Unions and defendant labour organizations from interfering with the conduct of his business. From the complaint filed, it appeared that the plaintiff was the owner of two restaurants in San Francisco, and that the defendants were labour unions and others, officers of or persons in sympathy with such unions. One of the defendant unions was composed of cooks, waiters and bartenders. It was alleged that the defendants entered into a conspiracy to coerce plaintiff into the subjection of his business to the control of the defendants: that the defendants had requested the plaintiff to sign an agreement with the Cooks' and Waiters' Alliance, one of the defendants, which was to provide that plaintiff should employ only union help, and fixing a certain scale of wages and certain hours per day and days per week as the maximum work to be required of any employee: that unless he signed this agreement and complied with the rules of said Alliance a boycott would be declared against him, and all cooks and waiters in his employ called out and no others permitted to work for him. The plaintiff refused, and the defendants did as they had threatened, and requested patrons of plaintiff not to deal with him, "falsely and unlawfully declaring that plaintiff was an enemy to labour, was unfair, and kept unfair places of business." Men were picketed in front of plaintiff's restaurants, and, marching up and down, called forth in loud and threatening tones not to patronize plaintiff, that he was unfair and kept an unfair house. Men bearing transparencies and sandwich-men with placards inscribed "Don't patronize Johnson's creamerie. It is a non-union house. Six days a week is long enough for any restaurant employee to work. Help us with our fight for a day's rest and shorter work-day by patronizing houses with a union card." Members of defendant unions were forbidden, under penalty of