

Paying scant heed to the sovereign rights of the States to conserve their respective fauna, Senator Henty said that the only export of live fauna his government would permit would be for bona fide zoological and scientific purposes.

The Premier (Mr. Brand) has written to the Prime Minister protesting against the Commonwealth Government's ex parte interference with the rights of the States and requesting that the proposal be reconsidered with a view to the States carrying out their normal constitutional functions.

LICENSING OF FAUNA KEPT IN CAPTIVITY.

The successful prosecution (in the Perth Police Court, on December 22), of a florist who had sold budgerigars without a license, has drawn attention to the regulations controlling the bird trade and in the closing days of December a large number of licenses have been issued to persons authorising them to keep fauna in captivity.

The Fauna Protection Act provides that no person shall sell any fauna unless he is licensed and regulations made under the Act direct that any person keeping ten unprotected birds, or any protected fauna whatsoever, shall be licensed.

The fee is 10/- per annum. Inspectors should direct persons requiring this license to write to Head Office advising the number of each species of fauna held in captivity and to enclose their remittance to cover the license fee.

As a result of continued complaints received of birds being held under unsatisfactory conditions, a number of prosecutions are pending and the Royal Agricultural Society has announced that cage birds have been banned as side-show prizes at the Royal Show this year.