

### Legal procedures updated

A second object of the amendments is to bring up to date several provisions of the Criminal Code dealing with the legal process and criminal procedure, Mr. Lang said.

Under the amendments, for instance, the Court of Appeal when hearing an appeal from an acquittal by a jury, will no longer be able to reverse that decision, but will be required to either order a new trial or dismiss the appeal.

Changes proposed in the procedures dealing with rape and related sexual offences include the elimination of the need for corroboration of a rape victim's testimony. Evidence of the victim's sexual conduct with a person other than the accused will be permitted only if reasonable notice is given in writing.

Other amendments deal with the publication of the victim's identity, change of venue and exclusion of the public from the trial or portions of it.

### White collar-international crime

Another aim of the bill is to make provision for dealing with crimes that have recently become more prevalent in our society, stated Mr. Lang.

At present, it is an offence to knowingly possess in Canada anything obtained by crime here or elsewhere. This only applies, however, to what was actually obtained, not to the proceeds into which it may have been converted.

An amendment would make it an offence to knowingly possess in Canada the fruits or proceeds of criminal acts, whether committed here or in another country. This amendment is designed to deter the flow of "laundered" funds into Canada as well as to strengthen the role of law-enforcement authorities.

Amendments are also introduced dealing with the fraudulent use of credit cards and theft of telecommunications services.

Also, the growth of international crime has prompted the introduction into the Criminal Code of provisions dealing with international conspiracy.

### Changes in public attitude

Mr. Lang said that one of the main objects in introducing this bill was to update certain areas of the criminal law to reflect the changes in public attitudes.

"This is true specifically with respect to the provisions of the Criminal Code dealing with pinball machines and provincial lotteries," he said.

Under the amendments, pinball machines which only dispense free games as prizes are no longer illegal.

And, amendments to Section 190 of the Criminal Code provide that a manufacturer of lottery tickets may now ship or sell tickets for the purpose of a lottery scheme across provincial boundaries.

In introducing the amendments, the Justice Minister commented on the contributions that have been made in developing them by the Canadian Bar Association, the Criminal Law Section of the Uniform Law Conference, the provincial attorneys-general, law enforcement authorities and the general public.

Further proposals for change are expected in the criminal law in the coming months as the Law Reform Commission of Canada presents its final reports.

### Canada/Israel double taxation pact

The Department of External Affairs announced the signing on July 21 of an agreement between Canada and Israel for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital.

Following the 1971 Canadian tax reform, the Minister of Finance indicated that it would be necessary to revise existing tax treaties and to negotiate a large number of others. In the case of the convention with Israel, talks started in spring 1973. Representatives of Departments of Finance of both countries met several times since then and reached agreement on the text of a draft convention signed July 21; it is the third signed by Canada since tax reform.

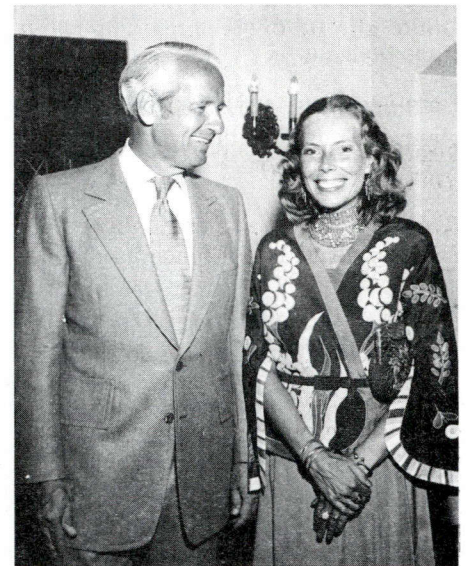
In regard to dividends, branch profits, royalties, and interests paid to non-residents, a general rate of withholding tax of 15 per cent will apply. The convention, which also provides for a limited number of exceptions in the case of interest and royalties, will enter into force only on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification.

### Continued participation in UN Middle East peace force

Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen announced on August 7 that, following a request from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Canada had agreed to continue participating in the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East (UNEF) for a further period of three months, until October 24.

Canada shares with Poland the task of providing logistic support for UNEF, which is carried out in conjunction with similar duties with UNDOF.

About 1,000 personnel, (some 850 with UNEF in the Sinai, the remainder with UNDOF on the Golan Heights), make up the Canadian contingent serving with the UN peacekeeping forces in the Middle East.



### Superstar remembers Canada Day

*Joni Mitchell, internationally-known singer and composer, visited the Canadian Consulate in Los Angeles last month on Canada Day. She is shown here with Canadian Consul General Donald Gilchrist.*

*Saskatoon-born Miss Mitchell, who made her debut in a Toronto coffee house in the Sixties, has had her songs recorded by such singers as Bob Dylan and Frank Sinatra and has to her credit at least six of the most highly acclaimed record albums — Court and Spark, For the Roses, Blue, Ladies of the Canyon, Clouds and Joni Mitchell.*