

prived of the right of action to set aside the agreement and recover back moneys paid thereunder.

After the judgment appealed from had been rendered the statute was further amended (5 Geo. V., c. 2), by the addition of sub-s. 8(a), providing that the seventh sub-section could not be pleaded or relied on in any civil action or proceeding by a party to any such agreement when the plan in question had been registered before the action or proceeding was instituted or where it was the duty of the party pleading to make such registration.

*Held*, that, as the last amending Act was not a statute declaratory of the law as it stood at the time when the judgment appealed from was rendered, and as appeals to the Supreme Court of Canada are not of the nature of re-hearings to which the principle decided in *Quilter v. Mapleson*, 9 Q.B.D. 672, applies, the restricting provisions can have no effect in regard to the decision of the present appeal.

Judgment appealed from, 8 West. W.R. 440, affirmed.

A. H. Clarke, K.C., for appellants. M. B. Peacock, for respondent.

B.C.]

[Nov. 2, 1915.]

ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR CANADA v. RITCHIE CONTRACTING AND SUPPLY Co.

*Constitutional Law—Canadian Waters—Sea Coasts—Property in Foreshores—Harbours—Havens—Roadsteads—Ownership of Beds—Construction of Statute—B.N.A. Act, 1867, ss. 108, 109.*

The term "public harbours" in item 2 of the third schedule of the British North America Act, 1867, is not intended to describe or include portions of the sea coast of Canada having merely a natural confirmation which may render them susceptible of use as harbours for shipping; such potential harbours or havens of refuge are not property of the class transferred to the Dominion of Canada by s. 108 of the British North America Act, 1867. The term used refers only to public harbours existing as such at the time when the provinces became part of the Dominion of Canada.

*Per Davies, Idington, Anglin and Brodeur, JJ.:*—As that part of Burrard Inlet, on the coast of British Columbia, known as "English Bay," was not in use as a harbour at the time of