

Down to the Sea Again

SIR JAMES BISSET crowned a career at sea which lasted nearly half a century by commanding first the Queen Mary and then the Queen Elizabeth, during the war years and after. On a trip round the world after his retirement in 1947 he decided to settle in Australia. He has now recorded his reminiscences, which listeners will hear soon from the four ZB stations. Commodore's Corner goes back to the Mersey River ferries and life in a squarerigged barque. Through the years to the eventful days of World War II., Sir James had a full, interesting and at times exciting life—picking up survivors from the Titanic, serving on destroyers in World War I., and luxury cruising in the Franconia. On the Queens he met many famous people, from Churchill and Molotov to Bob Hope and Marlene Dietrich, and carried many thousands of troops. Sir James Bisset's entertaining chapters of autobiography will start from 1ZB at 8.30 p.m. on Friday, August 24, and at the same time from 2ZB on September 7, 3ZB on September 21, and 4ZB on October 5.



SIR JAMES BISSET, formerly Commodore of the Cunard-White Star line, and (at top of page) his last command, the world's largest liner, the Queen Elizabeth

DEATH OF A REVOLUTIONARY

DROBABLY no composer had such a far-reaching influence on modern music as Arnold Schoenberg, who died in Los Angeles on July 14 at the age of 76. It is likely that he will be remembered not for his own compositions but as the father of atonalism, an uncompromising revolutionary whose life was dedicated to "the emancipation of dissonance," who took the soft harmonies out and replaced them with harsh sounds and langling discords. The twelve-tone technique which Schoenberg and his followers practised simply used the seven tones of the tonic sol-fa plus the five half-notes that come in between them, that is, the full chromatic scale in an octave. But the music it produced was highly intellectual, hard to listen to and, according to some critics, barren and sterile. In 1933 the Vienna-born composer left Nazi Germany for America, where he remained teaching until his



ARNOLD SCHOENBERG



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