" I swear to be courageous, to maintain my opinion fearlessly against any hostile belief that refuses to tolerate it.

" And I swear to renounce it the moment I see or am shown a convincing reason for doing so."

A. WOHLGEMUTH.

(1) Quoted from P. L. Couchond: *The Enigma of Jesus.* With an Introduction by Sir James Fraser. London: Watts & Co., 1924.

A ROYAL COMMISSION ON LUNACY LAW.

THE King has been pleased to approve the appointment of a Royal Commission with the following terms of reference:

(1) To inquire as regards England and Wales into the existing law and administrative machinery in connection with the certification, detention and care of persons who are or are alleged to be of unsound mind;

(2) To consider as regards England and Wales the extent to which provision is or should be made for the treatment without certification of persons suffering from mental disorder;

And to make recommendations.

The Commission will be composed as follows:

The Right Hon. H. P. Macmillan, *K.C.* (chairman), the Earl Russell, Lord Eustace Percy, *M.P.*, Sir Thomas Hutchison, *Bt.*, Sir Humphry Rolleston, *K.C.B.*, M.D., D.C.L., LL.D., Sir Ernest Hiley, *K.B.E.*, Sir David Drummond, *C.B.E.*, M.D., D.C.L., Mr. W. A. Jowitt, *K.C.*, *M.P.*, Mr. F. D. MacKinnon, *K.C.*, Mr. H. Snell, *M.P.*, Mrs. C. J. Matthew, Miss Madeline Symons, with Mr. P. Barter, of the Ministry of Health, as Secretary.

All communications regarding the Commission should be addressed to " The Secretary, Royal Commission on Lunacy and Mental Disorder, Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 1."

Applications to give evidence before the Commission should be made in writing; personal interviews cannot be granted in this connection.

OBITUARY.

RICHARD HENRY HEURTLEY SANKEY, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

The *doyen* of our Association died on May 13, 1921, at the age of 90. He was appointed Assistant Medical Officer to Dr. Leigh at Littlemore Asylum (Oxford and Berks County Asylum) in 1854. After serving as Assistant Medical Officer for seven years he was appointed Medical Superintendent. This post he held until he retired in 1906, after 52 years' service. He retained his faculties until the end of his life. His sight, hearing and memory were very good. He was always bright and cheerful and never depressed. He married in 1869 and had one son and two daughters. His wife died in March, 1914.

ALBERT IRWIN EADES, L.R.C.P.&S.Irel., Medical Superintendent, North Riding Mental Hospital.

THE tragic death of Dr. Albert Irwin Eades on Easter Monday caused widespread distress amongst all who knew him.

Eades was a man who required knowing.

A first impression was apt to be that of a cold, austere person, entirely self-sufficient, whereas this was very far removed from the true nature of the man. He was warm-hearted, generous to a degree, and possessed a store of dry humour which made him a most entertaining companion.

He was essentially a man's man, and enjoyed nothing better than a quiet evening round the fire with a friend and a pipe, and if that friend were in his specialty, so much the better, for he was entirely bound up in his work, and never wearied of discussing ways and means of improving the lot of his patients.

He was a shrewd judge of character, and his reminiscences of the various colleagues he had served with in the course of his career at Nottingham, Prestwich

https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.70.290.503 Published online by Cambridge University Press