

those in lowly station, by the capacity to make humble folk feel at home in one's presence. In all these varying characteristics, Tom Coleman stands out as an exceptional person, as a man who is always open to his critics and as a person who recognizes neither class nor caste. This is not to suggest that he is immune from wrongdoing. Rather it is to demonstrate that when lapses are brought to his attention, it is gratifying to see how rapidly and in what spirit they are remedied.

Now a few words regarding Tom Coleman's accomplishments, remembering that we are speaking of a young man still seven years short of completing his second score. First and foremost is his founding and editing of the Sexual Law Reporter, an endeavor which has already gone a long way in establishing the field of sexual law and sexual civil liberties as a distinct discipline. This publication, which has never had a serious competitor, has ploughed new ground in bringing to the public's attention legal areas which, until now, have been terra incognita. Secondly, I would mention Tom's long record of successful litigation in the California courts, culminating in his stunning victory in the Supreme Court of California in the case of Pryor v. Municipal Court. This was only the most spectacular of several legal victories which have gone a long way in dismantling several unjust and discriminatory California statutes and procedures responsible for blighting the lives of gay people in California. I should note, too, what a pleasure it is as a lawyer to discuss legal issues with Tom. It is during these discussions that Tom's imaginative and innovative legal mind really comes into play. I, for one, can only say that it is a distinct treat to engage in such legal discussions with him. The Pryor case, in which I submitted a companion brief on behalf of the National Committee, was only the most salient example of our legal collaboration.

Finally, we come to the most recent of Tom Coleman's accomplishments. Over the course of several years, Tom, almost single-handedly, spearheaded the demand which led ^{to} the establishment by Governor Brown of the California Commission on Sexual Privacy. Tom was the individual who, through his private letter to the Governor, raised the issues involved, thereby bringing himself to the Governor's attention. He eventually became the key figure upon whom the Governor and the top members of his administrative staff relied for the formulation of the executive order that created the Commission and for fashioning the framework for its operations. It is singularly fitting, therefore, that there should be present here this evening several members of the California Commission, including its chairperson, Burt Pines.

In sum, these accomplishments alone have more than