John Sooner wanted to help. He was sure there was something worthwhile that even a man of limited means could do for his alma mater, and he was willing to spend some time to find out just how he could be most helpful. A contribution in the form of a bequest would be an adequate one. But he wanted to make a contribution that would be lasting and that might help young people for generations to come.

Many agencies answered his written inquiry about their programs and purposes. Most of them seemed worthwhile, but just missed striking the chord that his mind insisted upon hearing.

One day, as he was opening his mail, he found a booklet called, "In Our Time," an explanation of the program and purpose of the Foundation. It was conceived as a trust to perpetuate the opportunities and the wealth of Oklahoma by developing the frontiers of knowledge.

And the reason for the Foundation's birth in 1944 was compelling. The booklet said: "The Foundation was organized as a trust in 1944 to increase the effectiveness of the University of Oklahoma's services to the people of the state of Oklahoma and to all mankind."

John Sooner wanted to help. He did when he made his contribution to the University of Oklahoma Foundation.

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