

November 26, 1952

Mr. H. B. Bugbee
c/o Shamrock Oil and Gas Corp.
Box 431
Amarillo, Texas

Dear Mr. Bugbee:

I have received recently a print of your painting "Making Meat" with the compliments of the Shamrock Oil and Gas Corporation. I wish to express to you and them my satisfaction at receiving this gift. It is not only a fine picture, but so much more authentic than most of those of earlier painters dealing with this subject—an Indian hunting buffalo with a lance. Both Charlie Russell and Frederic Remington usually show the Indian couching his lance like a medieval knight holding it in one hand alongside his horse. This of course is utterly ridiculous. The Indian lance had a short staff of four to six or seven feet and a long thin blade, preferably, a bayonet for its point. It was wielded across the body and held in both hands, thrust into the pike somewhat forward of center so that when the animal jumped forward the lance would slip back and not be jerked from the hunter's hands. It is noteworthy that Indians usually, as you have noted in old photographs, carried a lance with the point down, and when riding oftentimes across the saddle. Chief White Bull told me that whether the Indian approached the buffalo on its right or left side would depend on whether the Indian was right- or left-handed.

Thanks very much for the good job and a pleasant surprise. The Shamrock people have done themselves proud by putting out a painting in this fine form. I may add that I am a great admirer of your work.

Yours cordially,

W. S. CAMPBELL
(Stanley Vestal)

WSC:mhf

cc¹ Shamrock Gas and Oil Corp.