

The Ohio Oil Co.

Findlay, Ohio
October 17, 1949

Mr. W. S. Campbell
The University of Oklahoma
Norman, Okla.

Dear Friend Campbell:

Have just laid out a page or two of sun dance photos for the November Beacon. The information and photos came from Bert Miller of our Lovell Refinery and from Johnny Fuller of our Rocky Mountain Gas Office at Lovell. They and their wives attended the Shoshone sun dance near Lander this summer. Dancing were mainly Shoshones with some Utes, Blackfeet, Crows, Cheyennes and Arapahoes. They have sent a coverage which they ~~said~~ there, for the text and the photos are not too bad. Show the plumed whistles, the forked sun dance pole, the buffalo head facing west and the boughs which form the big sun dance lodge. Have the names of the dance leaders, also.

According to the Fuller-Miller version, the sun dance originated a long time ago when a tribe was threatened with starvation. I had always thought that the sun dance was a medicine dance in which a young warrior proved his mettle and often got a new name. Guess the Mandan and Sioux versions in the old days were most grueling. If I recall correctly Sitting Bull had just gone through the sun dance when the Battle of the Little Big Horn took place.

Anything that you care to add, such as comparing the sun dances of the various tribes, the origin as you have it, difference between then and now, or other interesting facts, will be used with credit line to you. Have time to mail this copy to you if you care to read it. Must have ready for printer within a week. That is, my copy. After that there will be more time to change or alter.

Sincerely,

Gene Price
The Beacon

