

Old Dominion University

ODU Digital Commons

Undergraduate Research Symposium

2022 Undergraduate Research Symposium

Mar 19th, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Fa'amatagi: From Whence the Wind Blows

Annette Roberts
Old Dominion University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.odu.edu/undergradsymposium>



Part of the [History Commons](#), [Nonfiction Commons](#), [Poetry Commons](#), [Polynesian Studies Commons](#), and the [Race, Ethnicity and Post-Colonial Studies Commons](#)

Roberts, Annette, "Fa'amatagi: From Whence the Wind Blows" (2022). *Undergraduate Research Symposium. 2.*

<https://digitalcommons.odu.edu/undergradsymposium/2022/artsletters/2>

This Oral Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Undergraduate Student Events at ODU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Undergraduate Research Symposium by an authorized administrator of ODU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@odu.edu.



Fa'amatagi:
From Whence the Wind Blows

A. Roberts

In the heart of the Pacific

The Sun is most radiant

Samoa, *maa taua o le sami*
(jewel of the sea)

Bewitching to behold

Alluring for those

Who come to Our sugar-white shores



Image 1

Heralds of the Bright and Morning star

Blackbirders

Gentlemen of fortune

Servants of a vast empire

All White men who are burdened

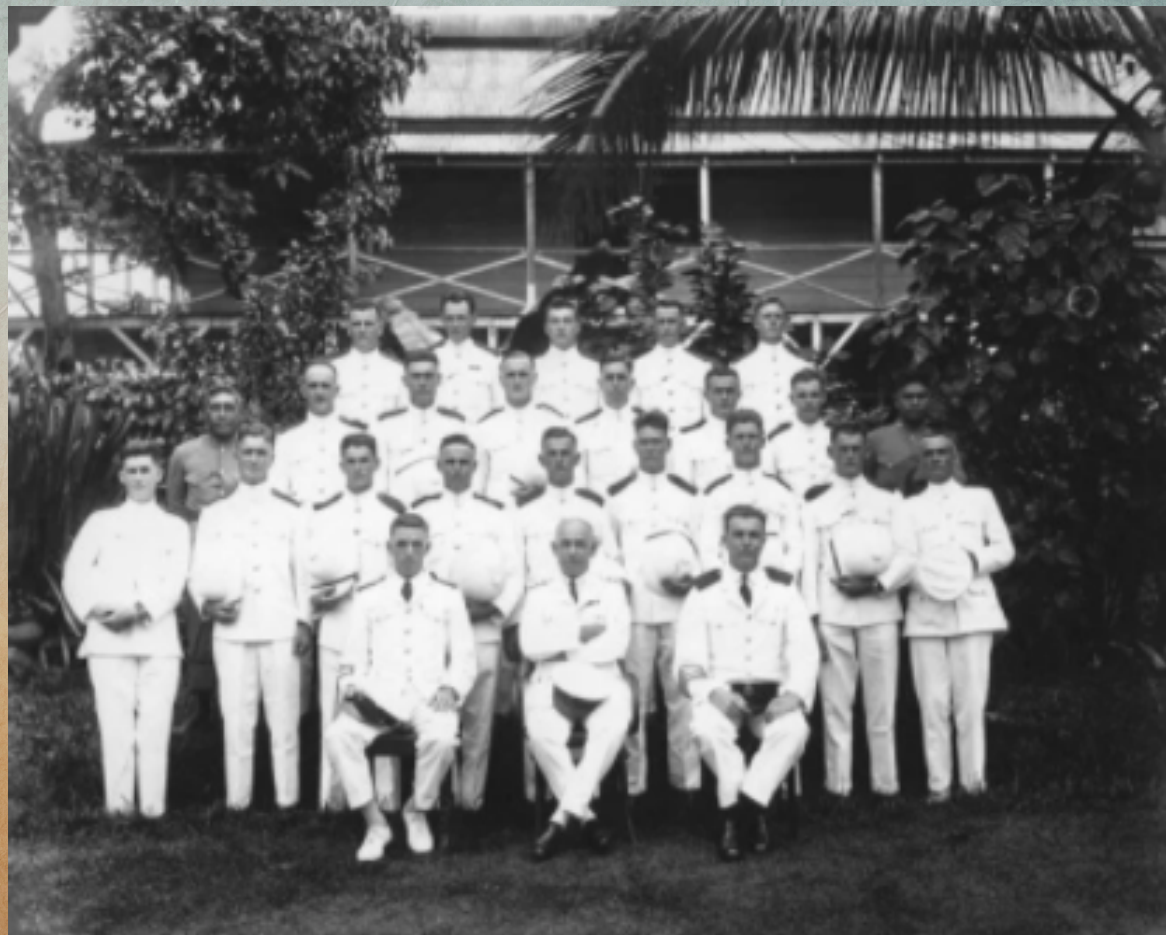


Image 2

the conquerors of Aotearoa

men from the Land of Angles

now turn their eyes towards Us

"splendid but backwards," they deem Us

but with "no thought for to-morrow"

and "no vision as to the future of these islands"



Image 3

It is a slippery slope

Accepting help from another

A stranger who makes a paltry showing

of learning the ways of the People

before deciding His way

is best



Image 4

Gagana fa'a Samoa, the words of my ancestors

old by Our reckoning

now disdained

English is preferred for speaking

although German will do just fine

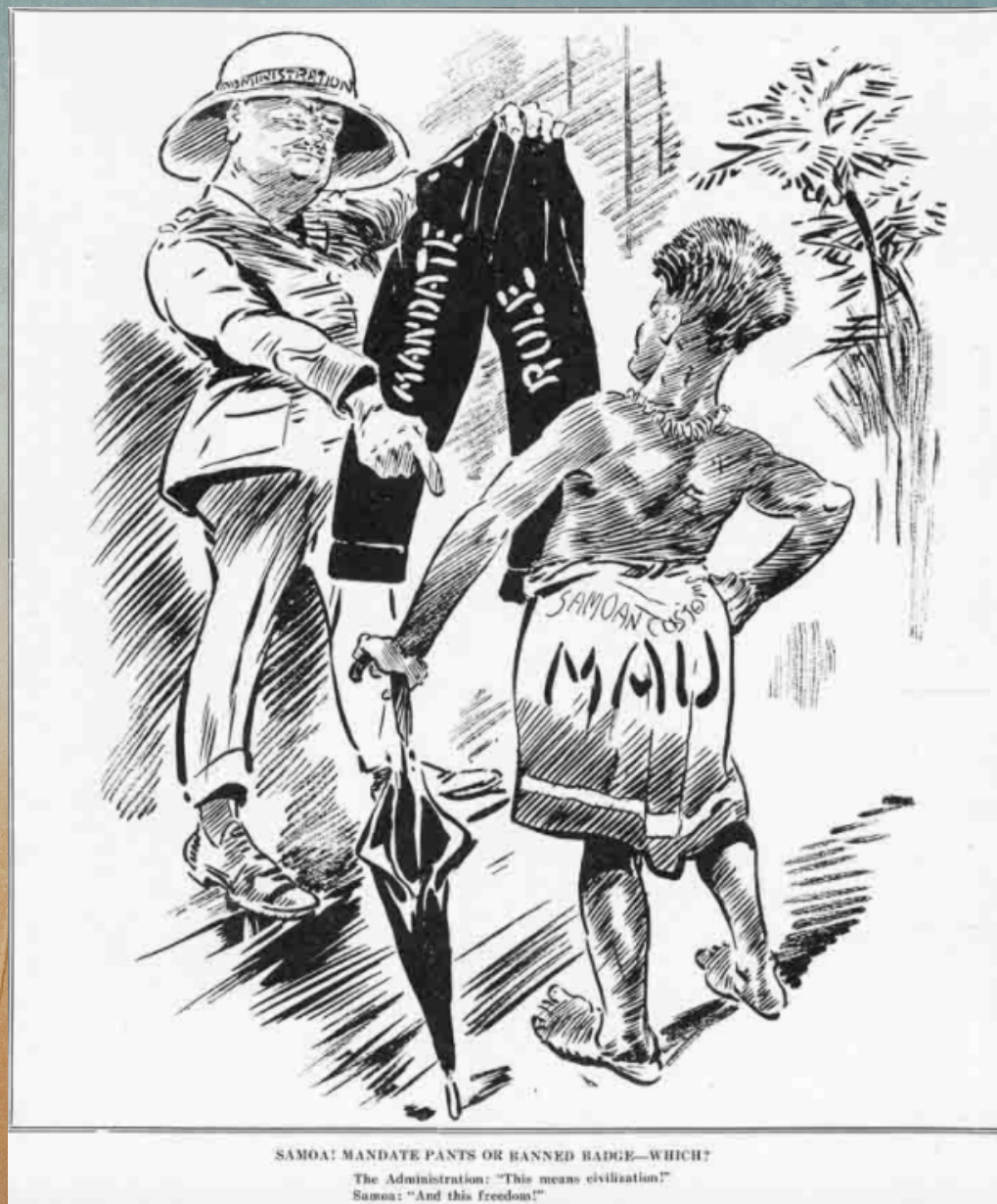


Image 5

Your chiefs will have no *fono*, no meeting, without Us

They lack the intelligence to lead a village

and You must be taught how to live properly

it is hard work civilising You People

but in the end, You will be grateful to Us



Image 6

O le Mau Samoa, it is Our firm opinion
that We shall stand apart
from the keepers of Aotearoa
their rules and their arrogance

We do not want it, We shall not have it

Samoa, tula'i ma sisi ia lau fu'a, lou pale lea

(Samoa, arise and raise your banner that is your crown)



Image 7

there is always a cost to be paid

and Our men know it as They run through the deep

moving through the dark

They crash through dense jungle

eluding weapons

and the ever searching eyes of Their hunters

a most dangerous game

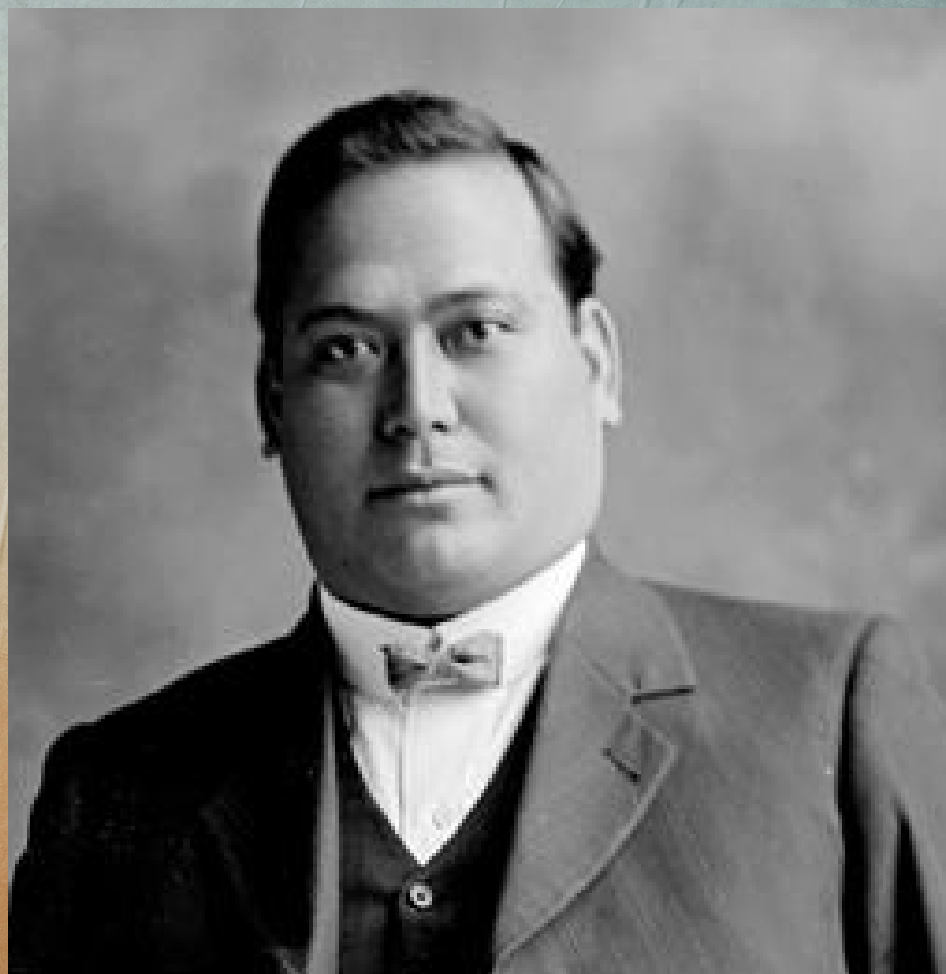


Image 8



**"My blood has been
spilt for Samoa.
I am proud to give it.
Do not dream of avenging
it, as it was spilt in peace.
If I die, peace must be
maintained
at any price."**

Tupua Tamasese Lealofi III

Image 9

Bibliography

Image 1

Turnbull, Alexander, and Alfred J Tattersall. "Raising the New Zealand Flag in Apia, 1930s." RSS , Alexander Turnbull Library, <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/raising-nz-flag-apia-c1935>.

Image 2

Tattersall, Alfred James. "New Zealand Police Officers in Western Samoa during the Mau Uprising: National Library of New Zealand." New Zealand Police Officers in Wester... | Items | National Library of New Zealand | National Library of New Zealand , 1 Jan. 1925, <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/22810206?search%5Bpath%5D=photos&search%5Btext%5D=27816>.

Image 3

Tattersall, Alfred J. "Group of Mau Supporters." RSS , Alexander Turnbull Library, <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/group-mau-supporters>.

Image 4

Tattersall, Alfred J. "The Women's Mau Leaders and Committee: National Library of New Zealand." The Women's Mau Leaders and Committee | Items | National Library of New Zealand | National Library of New Zealand , 1 Jan. 1930, <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/23167920?search%5Bpath%5D=items&search%5Btext%5D=women%2Bof%2Bthe%2Bmau>.

Image 5

William, Blomfield. "Mau versus Mandate Cartoon, 1930." RSS , Alexander Turnbull Library, <https://www.nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/mau-versus-mandate-cartoon-1930>.

Image 6

Tattersall, Alfred James. "Group of Men, Including Tupua Tamasese Lealofi III, Gathered around the Office of the Mau: National Library of New Zealand." Group of Men, Including Tupua Tamasese... | Items | National Library of New Zealand | National Library of New Zealand , 1 Jan. 1928, <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/23095865?search%5Bpath%5D=photos&search%5Btext%5D=5981>.

Image 7

Unknown, Unknown. "German Man with Samoan Woman." Facebook , <https://www.facebook.com/SamoaHistoryPage/photos/612155916795253>.

Image 8

Schmidt, H.J. "Tautai: S ā moa, World History, and the Life of Ta'isi O. F. Nelson - Thecoconet.tv - the World's Largest Hub of Pacific Island Content." Tautai: S ā moa, World History, and the Life of Ta'isi O. F. Nelson - Thecoconet.tv - The World's Largest Hub of Pacific Island Content. , Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Library, <https://www.thecoconet.tv/cocotalanoa/whats-new/tautai-samoa-world-history-and-the-life-of/>.

Image 9

Unknown, Unknown. "Tupua Tamasese Lealofi III." Facebook , <https://www.facebook.com/SamoaHistoryPage/photos/620131445997700>.