



Septimus Solomon Myers was born in Liverpool on September 14, 1852. A spice of romance came into his life as early as his baptismal day, when the Christian names of Septimus Soloman Arthur Wellington Daniel were bestowed upon him. The fact that he was the seventh son accounts for the name Septimus and Solomon, and the fact that he was born on the day on which the Duke of Wellington died led to the names Arthur and Wellington being added. By this time the child's father thought he should be in the picture so therefore his Christian name, Daniel, was added.

Myers, qualified as a dentist, and arrived in Dunedin on the *Lady Egidia* in 1888, and during his life in Dunedin played a prominent role in a remarkable number of activities of value to the community generally. In fact one wonders how he found time to earn a living, so numerous were his community involvements, with some of the highlights as follows.

He was an enthusiastic cyclist, enjoying touring, and becoming president of the Otago Cycling Club. He took a keen interest in rowing and yachting and held office as president of the Otago Rowing Club and commodore of the Otago Yacht Club. He was a foundation member of the North End Boating Club. This club was formed in the early 1890s and he held the office of president from its inception until he retired in 1925 when he was elected Patron.

In his younger days he lived in North East Valley and was one of the leading figures in public life. He was mayor of the borough for five years and chairman of the local school committee, and chairman

of the North East Valley Licensing Committee. He was a member of the Otago Harbour Board from 1888 until 1890. He was a Dunedin City Councillor from 1910 until 1914, and stood for mayor in 1915 but was narrowly defeated.

One of his greatest pleasures, especially in later life, was playing chess. He was a very old member of the Otago Chess Club of which he was a past-president, and finally elected as Patron. He was first president of the Southern Star-Bowkett Society, holding that office from 1899 until 1930. He was a Justice of the Peace and a member of the Masonic Order.

Having spent some 30 years in the service of the community he suffered ill health and died on 8 April 1930, aged 77 years, and is buried with his wife, who had died some three years earlier, in the Jewish Section of Dunedin's Southern Cemetery .

*Research taken from Otago Daily Times' files dated 9 April 1930.*