

Former Member of the Parliament of South Australia



Hon Vaiben Solomon

PERSONAL DETAILS

Full Name Vaiben Louis Solomon

Date of Birth 13 May 1853

Deceased 20 Oct 1908

Public Activities Vaiben Solomon was not only South Australia's only Jewish Premier, but also the State's most fleeting one. A diverse career as an entrepreneur was set aside for politics in 1890, when he moved to Adelaide to represent the Northern Territory in the Lower House. Solomon quickly made his mark on Parliament despite personal financial troubles, and served as Government Whip under both Playford and Downer. He became Leader of the Opposition in 1899, bringing down the Kingston government over the Premier's proposal to give the vote to all householders and their wives. Solomon became Premier at the end of 1899, but his leadership was over after one day after Holder voted for an adjournment of the House. Solomon was a delegate to the Australian Federation Convention in 1897 and also sat on the convention which framed the Australian Constitution. He was elected to Federal politics in 1901 but was defeated two years later, returning to the South Australian Legislative Council in 1905. He died in 1908 in Adelaide.

ELECTORAL HISTORY

Date	House	District	Party	Reason
18 Apr 1890 - 05 Mar 1891	House of Assembly	Northern Territory	Unknown	Resigned
25 May 1891 - 09 May 1901	House of Assembly	Northern Territory	Unknown	Seated Federal Parliament
27 May 1905 - 20 Oct 1908	House of Assembly	Northern Territory	Unknown	Deceased

PARLIAMENTARY APPOINTMENTS

Ministerial Appointments

01 Dec 1899 - 08 Dec 1899 Premier

01 Dec 1899 - 08 Dec 1899 Treasurer