

Although it was only in 1945 that Mr Gaitskell first entered Parliament, he became Minister of Fuel and Power in 1947 and, later, Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Government of Mr Attlee whom he has now succeeded as Leader of the Socialist Party. He was elected by a majority of forty-seven over the combined votes cast for his two rivals.

After the result was announced, Mr Gaitskell attended a Press Conference at Transport House, accompanied by Mrs Gaitskell; and here is the first speech of the new Leader, who has thus become Leader of the Opposition, and a potential Prime Minister of the future.