

INTRODUCTION

Professor A. P. Thirlwall

Our second speaker this afternoon is Professor Robert Skidelsky, who holds the chair of Political Economy at the University of Warwick. Robert hardly needs any introduction from me, or to the Seminar to which he is so well known. Apart from his many other academic – and these days I should add political – activities, he has been, as the biographer of Keynes, a regular attendee at these Seminars since their inception in 1972. It was in the first volume of his biography of Keynes that Skidelsky first argued in a published work for a link between Keynes's philosophical upbringing and his approach to economics; these arguments providing, I think, an important inspiration to others. He will talk to us this afternoon on 'Keynes's Philosophy of Practice and Economic Policy.'