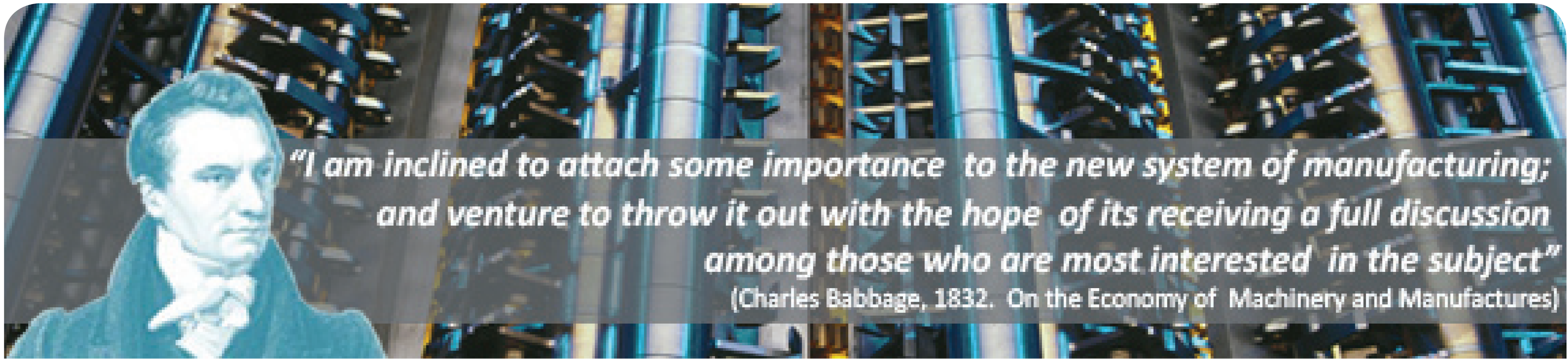


The Babbage Industrial Policy Network

2013 - 2014 Lecture Series



Manufacturing Economic Growth

A conversation with Lord Adonis

7th Babbage Lecture | Thursday 5 December | IfM, Cambridge



Biography

Andrew Adonis was fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford, when he was also elected to Oxford City Council (from 1987 to 1991) and then journalist at the Financial Times (1991-96) and political columnist at the Observer

He joined Tony Blair's Number 10 policy staff in 1998, first as education adviser then, after 2001, as Head of the Policy Unit. He was Minister for Schools from May 2005 until October 2008, Minister of State for Transport from October 2008 until June 2009, and Secretary of State for Transport from June 2009 until May 2010. He was one of Labour's negotiating team with the Liberal Democrats in the post-election hung parliament negotiations.

Programme - Thursday 5 December

- 16.45 Welcome refreshments
- 17.00 Welcome and Introduction
Eoin O'Sullivan
- 17.10 Lord Adonis
- 17.30 Roundtable
Michael Best, Ha-Joon Chang (tbc),
Mike Gregory, Bob Rowthorn,
Ken Warwick
- 18.00 Discussion
- 18.30 Refreshments and networking

Adonis Growth Review:

Terms of Reference

It is now eight months since Michael Heseltine published his report No Stone Unturned: In Pursuit of Growth. Yet his radical proposals remain largely unimplemented. Growth is still weak and elusive; unemployment, particularly youth unemployment, is high; and real wages are falling, putting an unprecedented squeeze on living standards.

In an independent report to be published by IPPR and Policy Network next spring, Andrew Adonis will make policy recommendations for a modern growth and industrial strategy to promote more and better jobs. Adonis's starting point is that the Heseltine Report was too restricted in its scope. It was good on the weaknesses of BIS in forging and driving innovation and growth policies. But it had little to say about infrastructure, where Britain has a poor record. It discussed the funding flows, but not the content of skills policy, where radical change is needed, particularly on youth apprenticeships. And it had to take for granted the existing pattern of generally weak Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) as the agents to drive local growth, since these were the government's flagship creation after the wholesale abolition of the Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) in 2010/11. It is essential to revisit the Heseltine Report with a real imperative for change across a broader canvas.

The Babbage Industrial Policy Network is a collaboration between engineers and economists with a shared interest in manufacturing and industrial policy.

This special Babbage event is by invitation only

For more information visit: www.ifm.eng.cam.ac.uk/research/brg

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