

Article 9 -- No Title

Margolis, -- Richard J

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pily on supply-side leftovers, all the while assuring us they are the only decent meal in town. He is no great admirer of politicians — they spend too eagerly and tax too heavily — but he takes solace in sensing that “our nation is immeasurably stronger than its politicians” and therefore capable of redirecting “the breezes that influence the wet fingers of Capitol Hill.” Mr. Rukeyser’s fresh breezes carry the familiar prayers of Wall Street — lower taxes, higher productivity, renewed capital formation. Contrary to populist pap, he claims, “America is not . . . about the forcible redistribution of wealth; it is . . . about the creation of wealth.” All the talk about “limits of growth” and adjustments to scarcity was “never in tune with the driving engine of American history,” which keeps chugging toward new frontiers. Mr. Rukeyser chugs along at a pretty good clip himself, exploring most corners of our economy, from exports to the New York Stock Exchange. Much of what he has to say is entertaining, if not illuminating. His lighthearted chapter titles — “*Oui, the People*,” “*See You Later, Regulator*” — reflect a book that is generally easy to read but hard to credit.

— *Richard J. Margolis*

WHAT'S AHEAD FOR THE ECONOMY: The Challenge and the Chance. By Louis Rukeyser. (Simon & Schuster, \$15.95.) Louis Rukeyser’s free-spirit prose belies the predictable narrowness of his economic analysis, which hews to the Laffer curve. In “What’s Ahead for the Economy,” Mr. Rukeyser — the urbane host of “Wall Street Week” on public television — feasts hap-