

Gubernatorial hopeful Lewis Lehrman makes his bid to make the state a viable business venture.

well. If the voters believe his supply-side promise that he can cut taxes and the state budget simultaneously, so be it. If they believe he can beat back crime by setting up "crises zones" and putting a few more state troopers on the payroll, so be that, too. Few candidates have lost elections here by underestimating the gullibility of New York voters.

But if Lehrman wins in September and wins again in November, he is going to find out that government, unlike business, doesn't have a bottom line. You can run it at a loss but there is no way to turn a profit. He'll find also that the demand side always exceeds the supply side.

And he'll find that television

gets, keep the subways running

commercials can't balance bud- or persuade a legislature to see things his way.