
By Carl Golden

Like an aging vaudeville duo whose act has grown stale and whose once-adoring audiences have diminished to a nostalgia-driven handful, Bill and Hillary Clinton have taken to the lecture circuit in their obsessive quest for relevancy and, of course, money.

In their recent opening night in Toronto — the first stop on a 13-city, six-month tour — the Clintons played to a half-empty hall of true believers, who cheered their attacks on President Donald Trump, ducked sympathetically, and cursed the bad luck that had befallen Hillary in her loss to Trump.

The former first couple are singing to the choir. No one is apt to shell out anywhere from \$75 to more than \$700 a ticket in the hopes of learning something new. They filed into the Toronto venue because it was an opportunity to reinforce their fealty to the Clintons, swoon over their political heroes, and come away convinced that the country is on the road to ruin because, among other things, the American people failed to elect the nation's first female president.

Packed houses are unlikely for the remainder of the tour, but the Clintons won't be deterred or embarrassed. The money will continue to flow (once she left office, his \$250,000 speaking fees dried up) and the media will cover their appearances — the twin goals of the ex-president and ex-first lady, U.S. senator and secretary of state.

The distraction the two represent is the last thing the Democratic Party needs or wants as it struggles to

Hillary's tour with her husband is a stab at regaining relevancy, but a striving for redemption as well, dramatic proof that her loss was a colossal mistake committed by the American people.

The tour also fulfills a uniquely Clintonian need to occupy as much public space as possible, a relentless effort to remain the center of attention and the object of media and popular appeal.

Raking in considerable sums of money at the same time—another uniquely Clintonian trait—is an additional and welcome benefit.