WORDS FROM THE WISE...

TO THE GAZETTE

An exercise in blatant intimidation of first-year students was the primary function of the History 100 Happening held in the McInnes Room of the SUB on October 14 and 15. Students were literally forced to participate in an 18-hour long musical marathon of Richard Wagner's "Ring Circle," which the History Department coyly referred to as a 'round-the-clock orgy'. Students who balked at the idea of going through such an ordeal were threatened with the loss of a credit for the

Professors D. Crook and J. Godfrey were the masterminds behind the plot to indoctrinate students in their particular kind of madness. Unfortunately they

succeeded in turning off a good many potential Wagnerian fans.

Wagner's "Ring Circle" consists of a cycle of four operas: 'Rhinegold', 'The Valkyries', 'Siegfried', and 'The Twilight of the Gods'. It is the greatest multi-media creation in the history of Western art. It is ironic to note that while the subject of the operas is FREEDOM, the students were not allowed the most basic freedom - that of dissent.

The ordeal started at 9:00 a.m. Saturday and continued through until 4:00 a.m. the next morning. Students were permitted to leave the room for one hour intervals during the day at assigned times and for tenminute breaks to use the washroom. Food and drink

were provided but it ran out fairly early in the evening

To combat the sheer boredom of the event, some students brought their TV sets. Another welcome relief was a pillow fight during which the pillows broke and feathers were scattered over the room. The most exciting event of the entire Happening was the bomb scare during which everyone got an unsheduled permit to leave the building

The reaction of the majority of students to the Happening, was boredom mingled with mixed feelings about the sanity of their professors. Certainly, no one was really turned on by

Perhaps in the future, the students will be able to look

back on the experience as a lesson in how to combat monotony. However, one cannot help feeling that this History 100 event was a rip-off and that the

best thing that the students could have done was to have gone home.

BETH BURKE

Trudeau is puzzled

Unemployment's up again

OTTAWA (CUP) - With Statistics Canada. election day less than three weeks away, Statistics Canada today (Oct. 10) provided more ammunition for anti-Trudeau forces

Unemployment hit a peak of 7.1 per cent in September on a seasonally adjusted basis, the highest rate for that month in the last 20 years, except for the 1960 figure of 7.5 per cent.

Although the actual unemployment rate is down to 5.2 from 5.4 in August, there was a larger-than-normal decrease in employment and smaller-thannormal decrease in unemployment. This accounted for the increased adjusted rate, up from 6.7 in August, according to

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At the same time, the actual size of the labor force dropped 434,000 to 8,840,000 as students went back to school. But it is a greater-than-usual decline for this time of year, the staticians

People over 25 years of age, particularly women, were hardest hit. The female unemployment rate for those over 25 went from 3.2 per cent in August to 4.2 per cent last month, all on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Youth (14-24 years of age) unemployment decreased only slightly from 12.1 per cent to 12 per cent on an adjusted basis. There were some 217,000

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unemployed youth in September, compared to 208,000 a year ago, using unadjusted figures. That means youth unemployment is up from 9.6 last year to 9.7 on an unadjusted basis.

The number of unemployed people seeking work for less than a month increased sharply from 89,000 in August to 118,000 in September, or from 18 per cent to 26 per cent of the 459,000 total unemployed. It is also above the 150,000 in the same category for September, 1971.

The number of hard-core unemployed decreased slightly, on a seasonally adjusted basis, from 107,000 in August to 105,000 last month, still well above the figures from April to July. Hard-core unemployed are those seeking work for seven months or more. They comprise almost 20 per cent of the unemployed labor force.

The Trudeau government's

claim that it has created enough jobs for Canadians entering the labor force does not hold water, Statistics Canada figures indicate. Although the labor force has increased by 2.5 per cent or 218,000 people in the last year,

ME TRUDEAU

WHAT DO

the new workers unemployed. The adjusted unemployment rates have also climbed steadily from 5.8 percent in April to the

only 193,000 have found work,

leaving almost 11.5 per cent of

present 7.1 percent.

Prime Minister Trudeau said today (Oct. 10) he was "puzby the figures, and promised the government will combat unemployment by putting more emphasis on policies designed to create jobs directly. This would mean less emphasis on programs which work through stimulation of the economy

Trudeau said he was puzzled because every other economic indicator showed the economy was growing at a fast rate.

By October 30, Canadian voters may have tired of his astonishment.

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