

# At the UNO Debate: One Listens in Vain For People's Voice

By CLAUDIA JONES

The Hunter College chamber was filled with intent people; many were uniformed men from many nations. These were representatives of the millions of peoples whose sons just fought and died together in a war to end fascism. Fought together. But your eye kept coming back to the empty

green cloth seat at the left end of the Council rostrum. On it was the card identifying the absent Andrei Gromyko.

You kept thinking throughout the session about the crisis which made Gromyko absent himself. You overheard the same old squeeze play by Secretary of State Byrnes acting now in the most reactionary manner and the meaning of Churchill's plan for an Anglo-American bloc hit you with amazing impact.

Suddenly Byrnes was speaking.

You heard him propose that since the Security Council did not have "all the facts" or know "the exact status" of proceedings between the USSR and Iran, the Council's General Secretary Trygve Lie should consult them and have a report ready by April 2.

## STILL RUSHING

The discussion proceeded rapidly with Britain's Cadezian seconding Byrnes. But Byrnes developed his squeeze play when reconsideration of the time limit was asked by Po-

land and Australia.

Then he agreed that he could not agree to an extension of the date. He replied, "Four days or 96 hours is ample time." And later, "I must insist upon the date suggested, April 2."

So stubborn did Byrnes become that some Council members, including Bonnet of France, Hodgson of Australia, Lange of Poland, reminded him of nature-made obstacles such as magnetic storms, coding and communication difficulties.

## LECTURE ON STORMS

The Council threatened to become a forum on astronomy until Lange of Poland cut through the supercilious manner of Byrnes which had set it off.

Lange spoke for all the people, you felt, when he reminded the Council that it would be better to be a little less interested "in dates, astronomy and magnetic storms" and to remember that "simple politics" was still on the agenda.

After all, Lange said, the Security Council is a political body. Rather than astronomy, said Lange in effect, the analogy of a court procedure might be better. Even eminent jurists, like Byrnes and the representative from Egypt know that it is considered "simple courtesy" to give a defendant time for preparation of briefs unless, of course—his voice was taunting—there are some special reasons to the contrary.

## NEED FOR TRUTH

There is need for people everywhere to speak up in their own way to assure peace. There is need for the truth to be spread widely as we see it here. There is need for labor, Negro and white, to raise its mighty voice to let the UNO, and particularly the representative of our own nation, know that our people want peace, not an atom bomb war, that they want Big Three unity, not Anglo-Saxon blocs, that only thus can the small nations be truly free and not used as pawns for the imperialist checker-board game.