Bradley Backs Move for Top ILA Negro Official

Capt. William V. Bradley, president of the Independent Longshoremen's Association, said he would support the election of a Negro dock worker to the top policy-making post of international union.

Bradley, who launched a plan to unionize man's waterfronts in the Port of New York into larger groups and freeze out old corrupt leaders through new elections, announced his backing of a Negro for the high office at a conference with the Negro press in Harlem.

With Bradley at the conference were David Atkins, Negro leader and ILA international vice-president; Norman C. Gleason, ILA organizer, and a dozen local officers of the ILA.

They announced that 25,000 to 30,000 Negroes in the ILA represent a majority of the 200,000 New York dock workers. He pointed out that the ILA had been a liberal party, but they were in the New York docks, where Negroes play a major role in the union's leadership, and that he would call for a New York ILA clean-up drive.

In the Port of Hampton Roads, Bradley said, it was a majority Negro union, and they were represented by the ILA.

The ILA official said that the ILA was the only union which had the Negro dock workers as a majority.

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