

Celebrezze is back in office—Jr., that is

By ROY MEYERS

Don't look now but Anthony J. Celebrezze is back on the political scene. However, this one has a "Jr." after his name.

The 32-year-old son of the former mayor of Cleveland was elected state senator in the 15th District, defeating Republican Sen. Paul R. Matia. No mean feat.

It was young Celebrezze's first try for political office and it naturally brought the question: "Are you aiming to become mayor of Cleveland one of these days?"

"I lived with the mayor of Cleveland for 10 years and I wouldn't want to put my family through all of that," was his way of saying he's not heading for City Hall. Celebrezze Sr., now a U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals judge, was mayor from 1953 to 1962.

The victorious morning after election day was pretty normal at the modest Celebrezze home at 16401 Marquis Ave.

Anthony III, 7, had trotted off to second-grade classes at Our Lady of Angels School. Catherine, 4, was watching Captain Kangaroo instead of election results on television. Charles, 18 months, was in the sack.

Celebrezze's wife Louisa, a North Carolina redhead, was pouring her state senator tea.

They had dined at his dad's home in Clifton Park, Lakewood, the night before. The judge phoned him later with hearty congratulations.

Young Celebrezze, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, said his father never urged him to get into politics "but I had been leaning to it ever since I got out of the Navy in 1968."

First he worked five years for Ohio Bell Tele-



A HAPPY MORNING AFTER—Anthony J. Celebrezze Jr., elected to the State Senate, gets a little breakfast-table service from his wife, Louisa, and daughter, Catherine. (Press photo by Larry Nighswander)

phone Co., then went into law practice last January. Mayor Perk appointed him to the Lake Erie Transportation Authority this year and he has been serving as vice president.

"I am very surprised at

Jim Rhodes' victory over Governor Gilligan," he said.

"I feel I can work with any governor. I hope we can keep the emphasis on citizens and not on bricks and mortar."