

**NEW ENGLAND MEMBERS PLANT CHERRY TREES
BY FLETCHER DALTON
BOSTON BUREAU CHIEF**

New England Region members and Wal-tham, Mass., Mayor David F. Gately joined in a tree-planting ceremony at the SGI-USA New England Culture Center on May 6.

Three cherry trees were planted in honor of the first three Soka Gakkai presidents, Tsunesaburo Maki-guchi, Josei Toda and Daisaku Ikeda. The first was planted by the mayor and New England Region Leaders, the second by youth and the third by representatives of the Soka Spirit Committee. Boy and Girls Group members generously doused the roots from an apparently bottomless watering can.

Bringing with him a proclamation from the City Council designating May 3 as President's Day in the City of Waltham, the mayor called SGI-USA a "good neighbor." The large crowd of onlookers responded with cheers and applause.

This was Mayor Gately's second visit to the Culture Center. Last November, accompanied by his wife, he attended a Victory Over Violence celebration put on by the youth. He declared he was very favorably impressed on that visit. He and the City Council proclaimed the day Victory Over Violence Day in Waltham.