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Express Belief
College Student
Suicide Victim

WELLESLEY, Aug 26 (INS)—Wellesley [Wellesley] Police Chief Robert B. McVey [McVey] today expressed fear that pretty Sylvia Plath, 20-year-old Smith College junior-honor student, may have committed suicide after she vanished from her home two days ago.

The Chief said the girl's mother, Mrs. Aurelia S. Plath, Boston University [University] professor, and several of the girl's friends whom she questioned, all agreed Sylvia was depressed and "that it was very apparent that suicide was on her mind."

McVey said the student was a patient of Dr. Kenneth J. Tillotson, a psychiatrist, and that on Monday morning, a few hours before the girl dropped from sight, a druggist had filled a prescription for 50 capsules of a sedative.

Later, the bottle of pills was missing [missing], and presumably Miss Plath had taken them with her.

Meanwhile, police sought the aid of Smith College students throughout [throughout] the country in the search for Sylvia.

The girls were being contacted by police in the hope they may furnish [furnish] a clue to Sylvia's mysterious disappearance.

Wellesley Police Chief Robert B. McVey said there was a "small chance" the missing girl may have got in touch with some of her school chums.

Police and volunteers, meanwhile, combed a five-mile stretch of woods that runs from the vicinity of the Plath home to the Weston line.

Sylvia, who topped the list of juniors last year at Smith, disappeared [disappeared] after leaving a note to her widowed mother, Mrs. Aurelia S. Plath, Boston University professor, in which she said she was "going for a hike." The note said she expected [expected] to return the following day.

Fears for the girl's safety mounted when it was reported a bottle of sleeping pills was missing from her mother's room.

Transcribed by Peter K. Steinberg, 10 September 2016.