

Title: *Boston Evening American* Sports Entries Results Edition

City, State: Boston, Massachusetts

Date: 27 August 1953

Page: 5

### **Pill Girl**

**2 Days**

**In Cellar**

[Photograph of SP's head, cropped from family photograph]

### **SYLVIA PLATH**

**Found in Cellar**

Dark-haired Sylvia Plath, 20-year-old Smith College honor student, told her family today that she was sleeping in the cellar of the Plath home, Elmwood [Elmwood] at Wellesley, during the two entire days that police and volunteers were searching for her through Wellesley, Newton and Weston woodlands.

The girl, a contributor to several [several] national magazines, is recovering [recovering] from an overdose of sleeping pills at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital where officials reported she had regained complete consciousness [consciousness] and that her condition was good.

### **NEVER LEFT HOUSE**

Mrs. Aurelia Shober, 60, Sylvia's grandmother, told the Boston American that the young college student had declared she never had left the house. The girl revealed [revealed], according to the grandmother [grandmother], that she left a note for

her mother, Mrs. Aurelia Plath, a Boston University professor, and then went directly to the cellar hideout—a half-excavated ell under [under] a porch in which kindling wood is stored.

Sylvia took with her a jar of water and a bottle of 50 sleeping pills which she had obtained on the prescription of Dr. Kenneth J. Tillotson, a psychiatrist, who had been treating her for a nervous [nervous] condition. The empty water container and eight of the pills were on the ground beside her.

### **SEMI-COMATOSE**

The pretty student was found in a semi comatose condition when police, at the suggestion of the American, started a thorough search of the Plath home. Wellesley [Wellesley] Chief Robert MacBey, said his officers had gone through the home Monday night, a short time after the girl's disappearance the cellar hideout under the porch.

Boy Scouts, police, firemen, friends and a bloodhound had hunted woodlands for 40 hours before the second search of the Plath home revealed the girl's whereabouts.

Mrs. Plath blamed her daughter's [daughter's] actions on despondency over fear that she no longer would be able to maintain the high standards [standards] of poetry and fiction which

had gained her a national reputation [reputation].

Transcribed by Peter K. Steinberg, 11 September 2016.