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Wellesley Girl Found in Cellar

Suffers from Overdose Of Sleeping Pills

A brilliant 20-year-old Smith College student, object of a 40-hour police search until she was discovered in a semi-conscious state in the cellar of her home at 12:40 p. m. yesterday, last night was reported "recovering" from an overdose of sleeping pills at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital.

Wearing Slippers

Sylva Plath, of 26 Elmwood road, Wellesley, the daughter of a Boston University professor was found lying behind a pile of kindling [kindling] wood on a narrow ledge between [between] the basement and a porch, by her brother, Warren, 18.

He made the discovery shortly after his grandmother, Mrs. Au-

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relia [Aurelia] Schober, 66, who makes her home with the Plath family, reported [reported] that she heard a moaning

sound in the basement while doing [doing] some washing.

Police Chief Robert McBey and Patrolman Theodore McGlone [McGlone], crawling on their hands and knees, reached the side of the girl and began the task of edging the semi-conscious girl to the opening.

McBey recovered a bottle of sleeping pills, lying beside her. Only eight of the 50 pills contained [contained] in a prescription filled out on Friday were found in the bottle. The girl, McBey said, had been given two of the pills Friday [Friday].

The bottle, under lock and key, was discovered missing during a police investigation of the girl's disappearance.

It was not immediately determined [determined] whether the student had hidden on the ledge on Monday after leaving a note for her mother which indicated she was going on a long walk.

When found shortly after noon, she was wearing dungarees, slippers [slippers] and a green, short-sleeved shirt. McBey said she was wrapped in a blanket which had been taken from the porch.

"There's a chance she may have been there all the time, or she may have returned to the house

following her 'walk' and crawled onto the ledge."

The police chief said the house had been searched Monday night "from top to bottom."

The ledge had been overlooked [overlooked], he said, because the kindling wood was in place and members of the family said it had been there for some time.

Transcribed by Peter K. Steinberg, 11 September 2016.