

Letter to the Editor

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In reply to J Silver

I am grateful to Dr John Silver for drawing attention to the work of Dr Donald Munro of the Boston City Hospital who he shows has precedence over Sir Ludwig as the real pioneer of modern treatment and rehabilitation of spinal cord injuries. I agree that this is historically important. I am pleased with the documentation provided by Dr Silver and acknowledge the primacy of Dr Munro in this matter.

In paying tribute to the great work of Sir Ludwig in my article the intention was to provide a context for the Lectureship established in his honor. My brief account of Sir Ludwig's clinical achievements was largely derived from the two biographical references quoted in my

paper as well as from personal conversations I was privileged to have with Sir Ludwig.

In continuing, Dr Silver provides more detail about Sir Ludwig's activities in Germany prior to World War II, thereby filling a gap in this respect. This information is welcome and of interest but I would submit that my sentence which he quotes is not in conflict with the facts he provides.

Nevertheless, despite these arguments, I believe that Sir Ludwig's reputation is in no way diminished.

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