

## Space program has benefited medical uses for weightlessness

Times-Pest News Service  
(Los Angeles Times)

LONG BEACH, Calif. — One of the most important side benefits of the space program has been the medical application of devices to stimulate

weightlessness, a local physician says.

The training devices that were invented to give the effect of moon gravity have been especially valuable in re-

habilitation of injured and crippled patients, Dr. James Gaume says.

He said moon gravity is only a sixth of earth's, and machines that permit patients to walk

under this reduced force and also permit the force to be gradually increased have a great future in physical therapy.

Gaume is manager of avia-

tion medicine and safety research at the Long Beach plant of McDonnell Douglas Corp.

The medical "spinoffs" so far have been impressive, he

said, but they are only the beginning of developments in medicine that can be credited to the aerospace industry.

Devices that simulate weightlessness or the lower

"out-gravity" of the moon are valuable for the rehabilitation of paralyzed or partly paralyzed victims of stroke, accident and heart conditions, Gaume said.