**Name Changes**

**"New Holland" is an old name for Australia. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Bausch & Lomb, a company best known for its eye-care products, was originally known as Vulcanite Optical Instrument Company. *(Samantha Weaver, in Tidbits)***

**"Better Homes and Gardens" started in 1937 as "Fruit, Gardener, and Home." *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Bic pens were originally to be named after inventor Marcel Bich but marketers changed their minds and dropped the "h" when they thought about how the name might be pronounced in America. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 5)***

**Bingo was originally called Beano. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 96)***

**Cities that changed their names:**

**Memphis, Tennessee -- "Quizquiz"**

**Moscow, Idaho -- "Hogs Heaven"**

**Mountain, West Virginia -- was "Mole Hill"**

**Placerville, California -- "Hangtown"**

**Portland, Maine - "Quack"**

**Prosperity, South Carolina -- "Frog Level"**

**Tilden, Texas -- "Dog Town" (World Features Syndicate)**

**Ernest Hemingway wrote "The Happy Ending," but then changed the title to "The Snows of Kilimanjaro." *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Walt Disney's "Goofy" first turned up in cartoons as "Dippy Dawg." *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Last Chance Gulch, the 1860's mining camp, later changed its name to Helena and is now the capital of Montana. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 48)***

**When actress Katharine Hepburn married a man named Ludlow Ogden Smith in 1928, she made him change his last name so that she wouldn't have the same last name as the singer Kate Smith. *(Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It's a Weird World, p. 39)***

**The "Hollywood" sign in California was originally "Hollywoodland" but the last four letters fell down during World War II. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 55)***

**IBM was originally called the Computing-Tabulating-Recording Company. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 49)***

**If Charles Lindbergh's grandfather hadn't changed the family's last name, the famed flier would have been known as Charles Manson. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 2)***

**Every modern musician knows all about Nashville. Except maybe that it used to be Fort Nashborough. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Nike was initially named Blue Ribbon Sports. The athletic shoemakers changed the name in 1968 to Nike after the Greek goddess of victory. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 50)***

**Originally, San Francisco was named Yerba Buena. Other re-namings include the giraffe, cameleopard; the elevator, vertical railway; Brazil, The Land of the Holy Cross; Ecuador, The Republic of the Sacred Heart; The Star- Spangled Banner, The Defense of Fort McHenry; and the Order of Elks, The Jolly Corks. *(James Meyers, in Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 194)***

**Pepto Bismol, when introduced in 1901, was called Mixture Cholera Infantum. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 95)***

**Before Tennessee was granted statehood in 1796, the territory was known as both Franklin and Frankland. *(James Meyers, in The Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 381)***

**What six famous toys and games were first called:**

* **LEGO -- Automatic Binding Bricks**
* **Twister -- King Footsie**
* **Silly Putty -- Bouncing Putty**
* **Operation -- Death Valley**
* **Super Soaker --Power Drencher**
* **Nerf Ball - Muffball) *(Tim Walsh, in Timeless Toys)***

**On September 9, 1776, Congress officially renamed the country as the United States of America. It had previously been known as the United Colonies. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**B. F. Goodrich coined the term "zipper." Until then, they had been called "separable fasteners." *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 2)***

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*