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Problem Solved

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PROBLEM SOLVED

Marian H. Haase

I was living in Toledo, Ohio, during World War II. The Spicer plant there made truck transmissions and other heavy machinery parts, and during the War they were converted to a war plant. When I applied for a job, they told me they were just starting an experimental division. Our Armed Forces were beginning to take some islands in the Pacific, and they were setting up depots for spare and replacement parts. How to get these parts there without their getting rusty or corroded was the problem.

The final plan was this: each part was wrapped in a heavy waxed cloth, then sealed further with strips of waxed cloth, then dipped in a vat of hot wax, then hung up to dry. Wooden crates were made to hold these parts.

Getting the crates to the Pacific was no problem, but these islands had no deep seaports, and the ships couldn't get near the beaches. But the wooden crates would float, so the crates were tossed overboard, and they floated to the beaches. Problem solved.

