

ADVENTURES OF A SLUM FIGHTER

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Adventures of a slum fighter by Charles F. Palmer

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TUPPER AND LOVE, INC.

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*To my mother
who gave me a sense of values
and
To my wife
who helped me keep them*

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

JAMES PUTNAM urged me to share these adventures and started me off on this book. Professor Thomas H. English said write as though talking with a friend. Miss Hazel Pate loyally typed the manuscript from my illegible longhand. Albert Love's keen interest and expert advice helped beyond measure. Hal Vermes also aided greatly. To all of these and to the many others who encouraged and commented, I am deeply grateful.

ABOUT THIS BOOK

By Beardsley Ruml

ONE OF THE most glaring obstructions to a better life for millions of our people is the obsolete design and structure of our cities. Already we are acutely aware that the conditions of our metropolitan schools, hospitals, transport and recreation facilities are intolerable. And worst of all are the slums.

That's why this book interests me so much. It's the author's adventures in wiping out slums. These are facts, not theories, because as a practical real-estate man he has done what he writes about. Reading like a novel, this book proves that slums cost us taxpayers more to keep than to clear; that the battle against child delinquency, disease, and vice is the battle against the slum.

The response to these ills of our cities has been wholesale flight from the city itself, but not from the city as such. The city remains "*la source*" as it has been since time immemorial. Accordingly, the cities will not wither away; they will be rebuilt.

The rebuilding of our cities is, therefore, one of the grand projects for the years immediately ahead. The programs will be varied—creative and imitative. The emphasis will be here on one objective, there on another.

Where better to start than with the slums! This book of a businessman's adventures tells what other countries have been doing for years, of the little we have done, and of the big job ahead for all of us.

