



## IT'S BYE! BYE! BLACKJACK

Edward Thorp, the pensive professor above, is shaking the gambling world with a system for beating a great card game. He published it a year ago, and now the proof is in: it works **by DAVID E. SCHERMAN**

RUSSELL LEE

It has been the boast of Nevada's gambling casino operators that the one thing certain about a system player is that he will lose his money systematically. "Tell us about a man with a system and we'll send a taxi anywhere to get him," they have said. Maybe so, but they are not sending any taxis these days to pick up Dr. Edward O. Thorp, a 31-

year-old associate professor of mathematics at New Mexico State University. It has been a little more than a year since Thorp published a book entitled *Beat the Dealer*, in which he offered a system for winning at one of the oldest and most popular of gambling games, blackjack. Since then, says Thorp, he and his disciples have had certain Reno and Las

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