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THE AMAZING WORLD OF JOHN SCARNE. A Personal History (Crowne Publishers, \$5). John Scarne's reputation as the world's number one expert on gambling is well established. Gambling casinos of the world know him as The Professor because of his mathematical wizardry—his figures and percentage tables are The Law in gambling, professional as well as amateur.

The publishers of this book, a handsome volume that takes you through Scarne's earliest boyhood days to his recognized eminence in the gambling world, say in a note that it is "perhaps typical of the fantastic world of gambling that its foremost expert and authority, its unofficial 'Judge Landis,' is not a gambler. And the reason for Scarne's abstinence from the loaded dice, marked cards and rigged roulette wheels? Well, the publishers say that's part of the story.

And part of the story it is indeed. Scarne got his earliest taste of the inside world of the gamblers by running errands for a manufacturer of crooked apparatus. He decided then, he tells us to make gambling his life work. A natural bent for calculations helped him with his decision.

The book has so many personal reminiscences that to cite any one of them would not give you the entire picture of this genius. But one or two experiences with Arnold Rothstein, the infamous

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