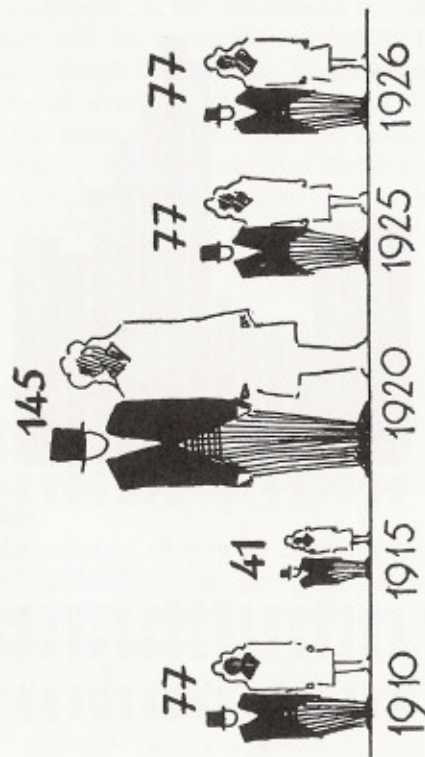


of a greater amount of things. Everyone is conscious of the value of this system in comparison with the old system of making the signs themselves greater or smaller (see Picture 25). All of us have seen in old and new books those pictures in which a tall man is placed by the side of a small one. The signs are sometimes representative of the number of men living in different countries. But it is not clear what sort of comparison is to be made by the eye. Have we to see only how high they are, or have we to see in addition how wide the signs are? Or have we to be conscious that the signs are representative of bodies, and is the comparison to be made between the weight of the two men? These questions get no answer from the picture. The designer of the example was conscious of this fact: he put in the numbers in addition!

These old pictures are not able to make it clear that all greater amounts are made by the addition of smaller amounts, and they give no idea what will come out if we take a smaller amount from a greater one. These old pictures are not able to give a clear idea of the effect of a change in the number of births and

Example of bad system: signs of different sizes
Number of men getting married in Germany out of every 10,000 persons



PICTURE 25