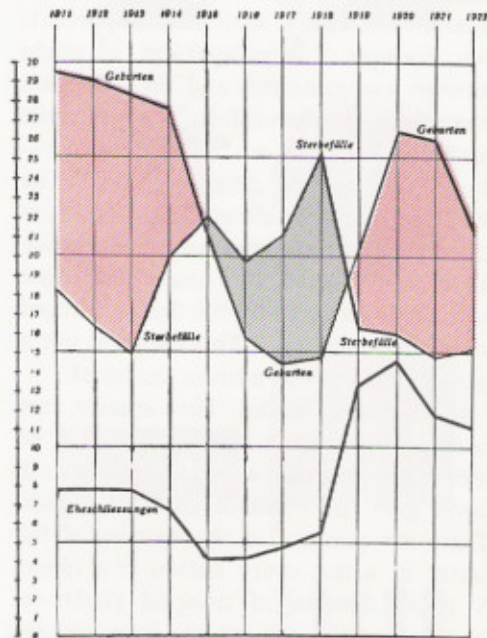


If we take into account not only the curve-line but the part of the plane which is between the curve and the straight line of 0, it will be more like our ISOTYPE system. And if divisions are made on the plane at equal distances, it will be even more like, because now it will be possible to see the number of divisions. If we have a look at the curve in this rough way, there seems to be nothing wrong.

Let us have a look with greater care. What the curve gives in addition to the ISOTYPE picture, is the points of the curve between these four marks which the curve has in common with the ISOTYPE picture. Sometimes these between-points have a possible sense—but sometimes they have no sense at all. The curve of the numbers of some society has a sense. The numbers are given for certain days of the year, which are certain points on the time line. But there is a number for every day of the year, even for every minute, and it has sense to say: we may get narrower and narrower, till we get the true position—every curve designed is in some degree representative of this true curve. It is like the curve of heat which



Example of bad system : curve of births, deaths, and men getting married

PICTURE 36