

## Accounting for Apparent Discrepancies

Barzun, Jacques and Henry F. Graff, The Modern Researcher (Harcourt, Brace & Co, N.Y.)  
1957

Footnote 19, p. 106 The researcher will soon discover that reference books frequently disagree. This does not always mean that all are wrong except one; what happens is that one book in giving, say, the date of a treaty will give the year of its signing, and another book the date of its ratification, months later. Similar disparities can and do occur about most events, private and public, so that the "right" date is frequently a conventional choice among several possibilities.