we got them with dust shot. This is the first time since 1921 that we saw this species.

NORTHERN RAVEN (Corvus corax principalis). —A fledgling collected by the writer at Grosse Ile de Kamouraska, Quebec, on May 24, 1939. The bird seemed to be over three weeks old, which shows the species to be a very early breeder. The first egg was probably laid during the first week of April, when it was still winter down there, as the light-house keeper, with whom I stayed, crossed on the ice on April 13. The specimen was alone in the nest when collected.—GUSTAVE LANGELIER.

VIRGINIA DEER IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. -According to the old adage "One swallow does not make a summer," and some might say "one bone does not make a whole deer," nevertheless, I believe that an astragalus found about 14 inches deep in an Indian shell-heap Robinson Island, Rustico Bay, Prince on Edward Island, may be taken as presumptive evidence of the presence of Virginia Deer, (Odocoileus virginianus), in the Island in pre-The astragalus presents the historic times. same appearance as bones of other mammals found in the shell-heap and it shows no signs of cutting or other artificial modification, and therefore there was no reason for carrying it from the New Brunswick or Nova Scotia mainland. None of the early visitors to the Island mention the presence of the deer, and even in Nova Scotia, as I mentioned in my article "Archaeology as an aid to Zoology" (Canadian Field-Naturalist, vol. XXXIII, 1919, p. 65), the first printed record of its appearance was in 1888, when it was introduced by whites; in New Brunswick it was not seen until 1818. -W. J. WINTEMBERG.

OCCURRENCE OF THE SHOVELLER ON ANTI-COSTI ISLAND, QUEBEC.—On October 11, 1938, while hunting Black Ducks on the west end of Anticosti Island, Quebec, I shot a Shoveller (Spatula clypeata), which came in with a flight of Blacks. It was in perfect condition, although its crop was empty.

I understand that this duck has not been recorded previously from Anticosti. None of the residents of the island were familiar with it and the specimen recorded above is the only one I have seen on Anticosti.—H. E. GRAHAM, *Resident Manager of Anticosti Island*. HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—In the October, 1931, issue of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* (Vol. XLV, No. 7, p. 180) an item, for which I was responsible, appeared, in which details were given with respect to the introduction of the European Gray Partridge into Prince Edward Island and in which I stated that this occurred in April, 1930.

It has recently come to my attention that in making this statement I was in error, for I have been informed by Mr. J. D. Jenkins of Charlottetown, the man who imported them, that they were liberated on October 27, 1927.

At this date, twelve years later, it seems worthy to note that this species has become firmly established over the major portion of the Island and for the past two years a short open season has been permitted, with the result that fair bags have been secured by local sportsmen.—R. W. TUFTS.

TWIN EMBRYOS IN A BROWN THRASHER EGG.—On July 5th, 1939, Leonard Denny Watson found an egg of the Brown Thrasher (Toxostoma rufum) on the ground close to a nest of the same species, which contained two partly fledged young, about three feet up in a bush. The egg was broken at one end and dented. Watson broke away part of the shell and found that it contained two embryos. He brought the egg to the writer and the embryos were still encased in the lower portion of the shell. The embryos had reached the point of hatching, but had apparently been unable to break their way out of the egg. Both embryos were perfectly formed and one was only slightly smaller than the other. When found, the embryos were quite fresh and, although the shell was broken at one end, ants had not yet attacked. This suggests that the egg had very recently been ejected from the nest.

Although double-yolked eggs are of frequent occurrence in domestic fowl, this evidence of twin embryos in the eggs of a wild species of bird is unique in the writer's experience.— B. W. CARTWRIGHT.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT PARASITIZES RUFFED GROUSE NEST.—On May 8, 1939, Mr. W. H. B. Hoare, of Britannia Heights, Ontario, informed me that his daughter Sheila had found a grouse nest with three large bluish eggs in it, besides the usual quota of grouse eggs. While the



Cartwright, B. W. 1939. "Twin Embryos in a Brown Thrasher Egg." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 53(8), 122–122. <u>https://doi.org/10.5962/p.340174</u>.

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