

The First 50 Women in Idaho Law

BERTHA RADO MUCKEY

December 15, 1924

(1898 – 1945)

Bertha Rado Muckey was born on January 10, 1898, in Watauga Valley, Tennessee to David Chapfield Muckey and Ella (Frasier) Muckey. She was an only child and described as her mother's pride and joy for whom she could do no wrong. Muckey's father owned and operated cheese factories for 42 years in New York, Idaho and Wyoming.

By the early 1920s, the Muckey's were living in Idaho and operating a cheese factory outside of Twin Falls. Muckey was admitted to practice law in Idaho on December 15, 1924. She maintained her active Idaho license until 1934, whereupon she moved to Mountain View, Wyoming. Although the records of the Wyoming State Bar indicate that she was never admitted to practice there, her obituary definitively states that she did practice law in Wyoming.

It appears that Muckey's move from Idaho to Wyoming corresponded with her family's cheese manufacturing business. Her father opened a cheese factory in Mountain View in the early 1930s and by 1939-40 had relocated the business to Urie (3 miles north of Mountain View), where he operated the Urie Cheese Factory.

Edna Wall, a neighbor of the Muckey's when they moved back to Mountain View, describes Muckey as a spirited woman who loved to dress up and attend costume parties. The Muckey family, Wall says, "were very nice people." So nice, in fact, that Wall says her dog ran away to live with them.

Muckey never married or had children, and died following a long illness on December 19, 1945, in Detroit, Michigan.