McFarland's Fish Camp never slept. In good and bad weather, there were carp to catch. If fishing conditions were impossible, equipment and personal gear needed repair. Crews also fed carp in the holding pen or drove loads of fish to the railroad station.

Soon after lake ice thawed, large numbers of massing carp could be caught in a single haul. But early spring weather was unpredictable. Sometimes the crew returned to camp wet and close to hypothermia.

FISHING CHALLENGE: OPEN WATER VS. ICE

**PROS**
- larger amounts of fish can be harvested
- in good weather, conditions are ideal

**CONS**
- spring and fall water temperatures are cold
- large lakes are dangerous in wind

**PROS**
- trucks and winches could be placed on the ice
- fish easier to catch because schools are less active

**CONS**
- setting and pulling nets under ice is difficult
- takes time to find carp schools through a layer of ice and snow