

Figure 40. Hook position.

sheaves that are designed for larger or smaller cables. Never drop a heavy object on a wire rope, it could nick or burr the wires and cause them to break. All loops formed in a cable should be removed while the cable is slack and before any force is applied. Force applied to a looped wire rope will cause a kink, the strands will separate or break, and the rope will be weakened (fig 39).

## 34. Hook Position

A hook used in rigging should be positioned with the open part (throat) upward (A, fig 40). If the hook should straighten out from overload, the tendency will be for the rigging to be forced downward. If the hook were positioned with the open part (throat) down, the rigging could travel upward unrestrained (B, fig 40).

## 35. Safety Keys

a. Safety keys should be in place on all tow hooks, shackles, or other items of equipment re-