The workability of the instructions and the effectiveness of the examples will have to be judged by teachers, students, and other users. There seems to be adequate information to give the reader a general idea of foundations and procedures, but students will certainly need a helping hand, and practicing catalogers should not find much they don't already know or have access to in standard tools. Continued revisions of this book attest to a certain demand, but it is hard to visualize the audience for this particular mix of introductory and advanced material. Covering the contents in one course would not be easy.

It should be noted that the text is fully documented and a bibliography of several pages on cataloging and classification aids is included. There is an excellent index and a glossary of terms and acronyms. The only mistake meriting mention is in the AACR2 section, in which .— is used to separate the items in a contents note, rather than — without the full stop. Only a former cataloger would quibble over a punctuation mark.—*Suzanne Massonneau, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont.*

Benge, Ronald Charles. *Cultural Crisis and Libraries in the Third World.* London: Clive Bingley; Hamden, Conn.: Linnet Books, 1979. 255p. $17.50. LC 79-12929. ISBN 0-85157-281-2 Bingley; 0-208-01668-6 Linnet.

In Nigeria, as in other Third World countries, "When social action is taken to create a new environment, then libraries will be a necessary part of it" (*Cultural Crisis and Libraries in the Third World,* p.242). At that time, it will be verified that Third World librarians can be strong forces for the welfare of their country. To do this, they must understand the meaning of development in their country, they must perceive how technology can be transferred appropriately to it, and they must avoid the pitfalls of education and mass communication imposed from without, in disregard of their country's native genius.

In developing this thesis through an essay-style approach, Ronald C. Benge devotes ten chapters to the general premises of development, education, and communica-tion; then he turns, in the last five chapters, to the particulars concerning libraries and librarians. Such a procedure gives students of cultural crisis in the Third World food for thought, without, however, providing a thorough treatment of that crisis; and it gives students of libraries in the Third World some guiding principles, but only a minimum of facts about the library milieu there.

This essay also poises itself on the edge between the general and the particular by drawing extensively from a vast literature concerning Third World affairs in general and by reporting on the author's years of personal experience, especially in Nigeria. The strong affective tone of the work surely derives from the latter source, and the reader has the feeling that as long as the author had the praiseworthy intention of avoiding a dry monograph on his topic, he could have presented his insights and feelings with more power by giving greater emphasis to his Nigerian experience against a lower profile of general background knowledge.—*Paul Tutwiler, School of Library Science, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.*