As a student of modern nationalism, I have been painfully aware both of the need and of the lack of a critical bibliographical guide to the subject. To prepare such a guide is, of course, a difficult and hazardous undertaking. No reflective person and certainly no student of contemporary politics, economics, or international relations can fail to be impressed by the all-pervasive character and influence of nationalist phenomena or to entertain some curiosity as to what nationalism essentially is and how and why it has become an all-important factor in present-day thought and action. Yet, despite the obvious importance and pervasiveness of the subject, much of the literary treatment of it has been superficial in nature and propagandist in purpose, engendering more heat than light, and unfortunately serving to obscure the fact that some really scholarly studies have latterly been made and published on various aspects of nationalism.

The more these scholarly studies have multiplied, however, the more desirable it has become to sort them out of the mass of ephemeral popular writing and to catalogue them. Five years ago, with the financial assistance of the Social Science Research Council and the able personal assistance of Dr. Shepard B. Clough, Instructor in History in Columbia College, I made a preliminary survey of European and American research then being carried on in the field. Now, Dr. Koppel S. Pinson, utilizing the materials collected in that survey and greatly extending and supplementing them from his own research as well as from his experience as Assistant Editor of the Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences, presents the following annotated list of general treatises and special monographs as an introductory bibliographical guide to the serious study of nationalism.

Dr. Pinson is not less aware than I of the provisional and tentative character of this bibliography. It is the first of its kind. It is frankly experimental. It has perfectly obvious limitations. For myself and for my own students, nevertheless, I am profoundly grateful to Dr. Pinson for preparing an original and truly serviceable guide and to the Columbia University Press for publishing it, and I believe that others will be similarly grateful.

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