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TELEGRAMS.
"DRAWINGS", LONDON.

ALEX REID & LEFEVRE, LTD

THE LEFEVRE GALLERIES
PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS AND SCULPTURE

DIRECTORS:
A. J. MC NEILL REID.
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MR/BS

1^A KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S.
LONDON, S.W.1.

5th June, 1940.

Mr. Prieto,
90a, Queens Court,
Queens Way,
W. 2.

Dear Mr. Prieto,

Following on the military situation in Europe and its effect on this business, we have been discussing what steps we as a firm ought to take to meet the situation. It has been very difficult, with one Partner in France, one in America, and one in London, but we have reached the conclusion that we would not be justified in continuing business during the next few months. We have been influenced firstly by the fact that there is very little business being done, and secondly that we cannot hope to do business if we do not have the pictures, and we are afraid to risk our stock in such a vulnerable position.

We feel that by the autumn we may be able to see more clearly into the future, but if we did decide to reopen it would certainly not be in time to put on your Show at the date originally contemplated, viz. the beginning of October. We would, of course, keep a date for you in the event of reopening, but we cannot, in the circumstances, ask you to commit yourself to this Gallery if you have any possibilities of exhibiting elsewhere. My personal impression is that the autumn will not show sufficient improvement to justify carrying on, and the poor artists are going to have a pretty rough time. Perhaps I may prove to be unduly pessimistic, and things may turn out quite differently.

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Mr. Prieto

I am sorry that I have to write you in this way and bring the arrangement that we came to some months ago to an end. At the same time, war has to alter everything, and the present indications are that the immediate future will be a very serious and testing time for us all.

Yours faithfully,

ALEX REID & LEFEVRE, LIMITED,

Alex Reid

Director.

