

# Russ Soviet Taps Duluthian's Mail of \$1; Issues His Mother 190,000 Rubles Instead



When Charles Rivers, 1011 East Fifth street, sent his aged mother in Russia a dollar bill with which to purchase bread, he was unaware of the fact that the soviet authorities would commandeer the currency and issue instead to his mother a credit of 190,000 rubles.

That is just what was done, however, according to Mr. Rivers, who holds a receipt from the Russian authorities for the amount. A reproduction of the writing, crediting Mrs. Rivers with 190,000 rubles, is printed herewith.

In her letter to her son, Mrs. Rivers writes that famine brings death to hundreds daily. With the 190,000

rubles, she adds, she was able to buy 40 pounds of flour.

Mr. Rivers explained he sent the dollar two months ago merely to learn whether it was possible to offer relief through the strict soviet censorship. It was his belief that the authorities prized American money highly, retaining it at every opportunity by virtue of its greatly increased value over their own financial paper.

The letter containing the receipt bore 10,000 rubles worth of stamps, 10 stamps of 1,000 rubles denomination. In prewar days they would have a value of approximately \$5,000, he said.