MRS.CHARLES HOUGHTON

Special to The New York Times

OXFORD, Ohio, Oct. 31—Mrs. Grace Norris Houghton, mother of Norris Houghton, a managing director of the Phoenix Theater in New York and Professor of Drama at Vassar College, died today in the McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital here. She was 88 years old and the widow of Charles Houghton.

Mrs. Houghton, from 1930 to 1933, was a house mother or hostess in residence halls at Rutgers University. She had been graduated in 1895 from Oxford College for Women, which is now part of Miami

University here.

A sister also survives.

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