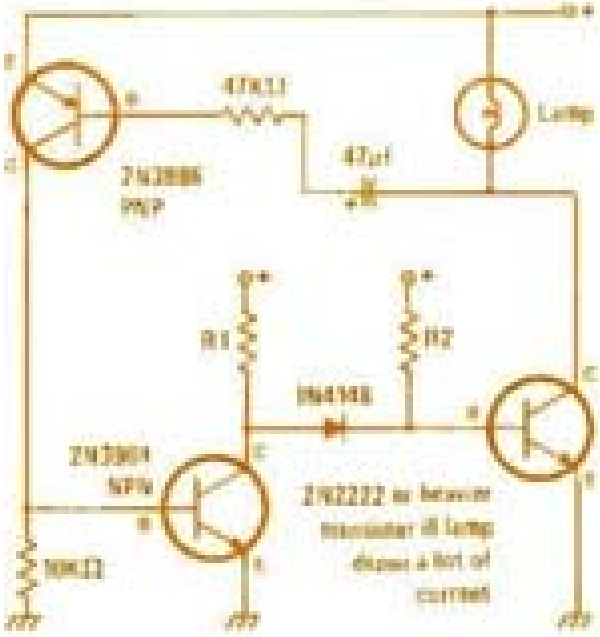
5 Bulb protector

When a light bulb blows, it's usually no problem to replace it. But, there are bulbs tucked away in locations that can make their replacement an all-day affair. And if that bulb is really essential, a process-time indicator for example, it has got to be replaced.

As the old saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a day trying to change a hidden lamp. And here's the ounce of prevention that can do just that. Bulbs blow because of the very large surge of current that flows through their filaments when first turned on. As the filament heats up, its temperature rises, reducing the current to safe levels. The life of any light bulb can be considerably extended by eliminating the turn-on current surge.

Our circuit not only limits the turn-on current, it automatically increases the energy delivered to the lamp to the full rated value when the filament reaches its operating



temperature. The result is the elimination of the current surge that does the damage.

The circuit is designed for use with low voltage pilot lamps such as the popular 44 and 47, but will work with any lamp within the voltage and current ratings of the transistors used.