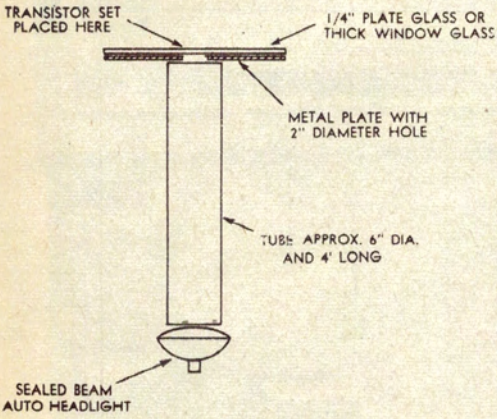
AID FOR SERVICING PRINTED BOARDS

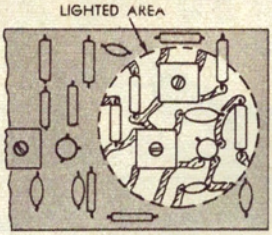
A simple device to help in servicing transistor radios has been submitted by Mr A. D. Fuller, 406 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills, N.S.W., 2120.

Some readers, including servicemen, may have the job of finding a fault in a transistor radio without a copy of the circuit or the printed wiring lay-out. There are so many different models that even servicemen seem to have diagrams in only a few cases. It can be an exasperating job trying to trace out the circuit of a section suspected to be faulty. I have found it is almost impossible to relate the printed wiring to the parts on the other side of the board without assistance from the device I have produced.

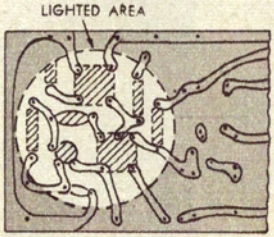
The idea behind the device is to send a near parallel beam of light up to a glass plate to give sharp shadows of components, etc. placed on it. The transistor radio is placed on the glass plate, first with the printed wiring side down, and then with the parts side down. A sketch is made in each case of the area of interest. It is then a fairly simple matter to draw out the circuit and trace the fault.

Basically, the device consists of a suitable tube about 4ft long by 6in diameter with a sealed beam car headlight at one end. The tube is mounted vertically with the lamp at the bottom, and the top end covered with a metal plate with a 2in diameter hole in it and a glass plate over the hole. If a diffused light is required for any reason, opal or ground glass can be used. ■





VIEWED FROM COMPONENT SIDE



VIEWED FROM PRINTED WIRING SIDE