Claims

1. A method for regulating a cooling device ~~(2)~~ fitted in or to a switchgear cabinet ~~(1)~~, by means of a regulating device ~~(22)~~, wherein the temperature ~~(TI)~~ of the switchgear cabinet interior air ~~(I, I')~~ is detected and an interior fan ~~(23)~~ assigned thereto for generating an interior air flow through an evaporator ~~(21)~~ and providing cooling air is switched on if the detected temperature ~~(TI)~~ of the switchgear cabinet interior air exceeds an upper setpoint temperature ~~(T2)~~, and is switched off if the detected temperature ~~(TI)~~ falls below a lower setpoint temperature ~~(T1)~~, characterized in that after the interior fan ~~(23)~~ has been switched off owing to the lower setpoint temperature ~~(T1)~~ being undershot, a timekeeping is started and the interior fan ~~(23)~~ is switched on after a predetermined first time duration ~~(t1)~~ for a second predetermined time duration ~~(t2)~~ and is switched off again if the detected temperature ~~(TI)~~ still falls below the upper setpoint temperature ~~(T2)~~, as long as the second time duration ~~(t2)~~ proceeds,
that the intermittent time-controlled mode of operation of the interior fan ~~(23)~~ is cyclically repeated until the upper setpoint temperature ~~(T2)~~ is exceeded, after which the interior fan ~~(23)~~ is operated in continuous operation, and
that the timekeeping and the intermittent time-controlled mode are started anew if the lower setpoint temperature ~~(T1)~~ is undershot.

2. The method of claim 1, characterized in that a compressor ~~(27)~~ and an external fan ~~(25)~~ of the cooling device ~~(2)~~ remain switched on during the intermittent time-controlled mode of operation, as long as switching on is predetermined by the regulation device ~~(22)~~.

3. An apparatus for performing the method of claim 1 or 2, comprising a cooling device ~~(2)~~ fitted in or to a switchgear cabinet ~~(1)~~ and including an interior fan ~~(23)~~ for generating an interior air flow ~~(I)~~ which circulates through the switchgear interior housing built-in components ~~(3)~~ which generate dissipated heat and through a subspace of the cooling device ~~(2)~~ in flow communication with the switchgear interior and housing an evaporator, comprising a coolant circuit, wherein the coolant flows through a compressor ~~(27)~~ and is cooled in a condenser ~~(26)~~ arranged in an ambient air circuit ~~(A)~~, and comprising a regulating device ~~(22)~~ by which the interior fan ~~(23)~~ is switched on if the detected temperature ~~(TI)~~ in the interior air flow ~~(I)~~ exceeds an upper setpoint temperature ~~(T2)~~, and is switched off if the detected temperature ~~(TI)~~ falls below a lower setpoint temperature ~~(T1)~~,
characterized in that a time control unit ~~(22.1)~~ is included, by which a time keeping may be triggered if the detected temperature ~~(TI)~~ undershots the lower setpoint temperature ~~(T1)~~ or the interior fan ~~(23)~~ is switched off, and a time-controlled operation by switching on the interior fan ~~(23)~~ after a predetermined first time duration ~~(t1)~~ for a second predetermined time duration ~~(t2)~~ as long as the upper setpoint temperature ~~(T2)~~ is not exceeded is performed.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, characterized in that the time-controlled operation within the time control unit ~~(22.1)~~ is predetermined by a program.