



The News

July 6th, 9am ©

by Sarah Heath

It may be a baptism of fire today for new Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne. She is due to present her general policy statement to Parliament at 3 o'clock this afternoon. She will then go on to the Senate. This parliamentary session will also include a declaration by the Economy Minister, Bruno Le Maire.

Prior to this session, La France Insoumise will table a motion of censure early this afternoon. They wish to force a vote, which is supported by other parties within the NUPES alliance. The Republicans and the National Rally have, however, already announced that they will not vote for this motion.

To transport news where rail traffic will be severely disrupted today. Only 2 TER out of 5 are in circulation, only 1 intercity train out of 3 and several TGV services have also been canceled. This is down to strike action at SNCF as railway workers demand a rise in wages in the light of inflation. If they do not win their case today, they could decide on further strike action later in the summer.

A new threshold has been crossed in the 7th wave of Covid. More than 200,000 new cases were recorded yesterday. The Minister of Health, however, wants to be reassuring and according to François Braun, hospitalizations remain "far below the January peak". Next Monday, the National Assembly is examining a new law "on monitoring and health security". This may mean requiring a health pass to enter France once again.

There were 200,000 lightning strikes in June – a record last month in France. Such storm activity has never been recorded since the start of monitoring such weather patterns in 1989.

And finally to cycling. Wout Van Aert won the 4th stage of the Tour de France. Today sees the long-awaited stage between Lille and Arenberg Porte du Hainaut - a distance of 157km.