



The News ©
July 29th, 8 am
by Emma Phillips

Today the government will meet for the last time before the official summer break. The conseil des ministres will meet at 11am this morning at the Élysée palace. The Prime Minister has asked ministers not to leave Paris before August 7 so that they can attend the assemblée nationale until the end of the parliamentary session. There's still time left to potentially adopt three new bills on health, purchasing power and on amending the budget.

The new purchasing power bill is now with the Senate. An amendment put forward by senators from the Republicains party was rejected last night. They had claimed that the benefits for the country's very poorest and jobless, the RSA should not be revalued at 4%, it should only be revalued at 3.5%. The Republicains claimed there was no need to revalue the RSA at a rate higher than people with a professional activity. The left, along with the Minister of Labour, Olivier Dussopt had strongly opposed this proposal.

Emmanuel Macron hosted a dinner last night that has drawn criticism from the political sphere and various NGOs. The Saudi Crown Prince was received by Emmanuel Macron at the Elysée Palace last night. Mohammed Bin Salman is suspected of being involved in the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018. Two NGOs have filed a complaint, accusing Mohammed Bin Salman of being complicit in torture and enforced disappearances.

At least eight people have died in the United States after devastating floods in Kentucky. Torrential rains transformed roads into rivers in the Jackson region. The State Governor has said that the number of people confirmed dead will likely increase in the coming hours.

And finally, this evening heralds one of the busiest weekends of the year on France's roads. The traffic website the Bison fute has it that traffic will be at red levels all over France today, turning to black tomorrow for the crossover day between people taking their holiday in July and August. Trains will also be extremely busy with one million people set to take a TGV or an Intercités train this weekend according to the SNCF.