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by Nia Cason

The strikes are starting to spread in the oil sector. The Total Energies refinery of Donge, in the Loire Atlantique, which until now had not taken part in the movement, announced that it would start their strike tomorrow morning. The CGT has made it known that Elisabeth Borne is aware of this decision. The Prime Minister indeed announced today the requisition of personnel to unblock the fuel depots of the Esso-Exxonmobil group. She believes that the strike is no longer necessary given that an agreement was reached yesterday with two trade unions.

In service stations, the situation is still tense, and 31% of stations have run out of one or more types of fuel. Yesterday, it was 29%. The two most-affected regions are still the Hauts de France and Ile de France. The shortage has consequences for deliveries of all kinds. According to the Organization of European Road Transporters, more than 75% of companies in this sector are in difficulty. A meeting with the Ministry of Transport is scheduled for this evening.

Deputies have adopted in a first reading the draft law on a new reform of unemployment insurance. The text provides for the possibility of lowering the allowances when employment is doing rather well, and increasing it when unemployment is high. This will arrive in the Senate at the end of the month.

In Ukraine, the bodies of 78 civilians have been exhumed in two towns in the Donetsk region, which was recently taken over by the Ukrainians. Kyiv has asked G7 for help in installing an aerial shield to stop the Russian strikes. Over the past two days, these strikes have seriously damaged the energy infrastructure. The government is asking residents to limit their electricity consumption during peak hours so as not to saturate the network.

And finally, we now know the date of the coronation of the new King of England. Charles III will receive his crown on May 6th 2023 at Westminster Abbey, as tradition dictates. His

wife Camilla will also be crowned queen consort, in accordance with the wishes of Queen Elisabeth II.