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by Emma Phillips

The quarante neuf trois article from the constitution to force through a new bill has been played by the government for the third time in less than two weeks. Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne used the article last night in the Assemblée Nationale in order to get the entire new bill on financing social security adopted without a single vote. The RN and NUPES walked out of the lower chamber. The opposition parties have yet to say whether or not they will table a motion of no-confidence.

Wage indexation to cope with rising inflation will not be a government policy. This despite inflation being at its highest since 1987. Emmanuel Macron has refused the proposal from the left. The president was interviewed last night on TV channel France 2. He said that “social dialogue” should deal with any increases in salaries and that it was “not for the state to decide”.

The union CGT is calling for a rise in wages and is looking to keep up the pressure on employers with another day of interprofessional strikes today. However, disruptions to transport and schools should be limited.

5,700 practitioners have been banned over the past six months from Doctolib. The platform which allows users to schedule medical appointments online announced yesterday that they would be excluding naturopaths, hypnotherapists and sophrologists. Some of these practitioners have been accused of being dangerous and even cult-like in their practices. From now on, only professions with references from health authorities will be able to continue to use Doctolib services.

The Secretary General of the United Nations has said it is “stupid” for the world to keep relying on fossil fuels. In an interview with the BBC, Antonio Guterres said that the world did not invest enough in developing renewable energies over the past two decades and that now we are “paying the price”. Had we done so he said that the price of oil and gas would not be what it is today. Antonio Guterres called on countries to “turn the tide” with just over two weeks to go before the COP27 opens in Egypt

And finally at 12:45 pm today the route for next year's Tour de France will be announced. The 2023 Tour could well start in Bilbao in Spain on July 1, followed by stages via the Pyrenees, the Massif Central, the Alps and the Jura, before arriving in Paris on July 23.