

The News February 1st 1pm© by Noele Bouazouni-Prier

Despite yesterday's strong mobilization, the government is not wavering on the pension reform. For the Minister of Labour, the postponement of the retirement age to 64 "is not negotiable". Olivier Dussopt defends a "necessary" text for a "return to balance" of the pension system. He still says he is open to improving things during parliamentary discussions. The reform will be examined from next Monday in the Assembly.

Meanwhile, the unions do not intend to give up. Two new days of demonstration are planned for February 7 and 11. The inter-union calls for increased actions throughout the territory and in all sectors. At the SNCF, the CGT-Cheminots and SUD-Rail call to stop work on February 7 and 8, as a prelude to a renewable strike from mid-February.

The immigration bill is presented today in the Council of Ministers. The text plans to reform the asylum system, to speed up procedures and to expel more foreigners who represent a "serious threat". The government also wants undocumented workers to benefit from a one-year residence permit if they work in a profession where there is a labour shortage.

Two suspects are in police custody after the disappearance of Sihem in the Gard. The 18-yearold young woman has not given any sign of life for a week. A man, who is supposedly a relative of the victim, as well as his ex-partner were arrested by the gendarmes of the research section of Nîmes. The suspect is known by the judicial system for a series of thefts in an organized gang and armed robberies in the region of Alès.

Today is February 1 and several changes will take place this month: The rate of the livret A goes from 2 to 3%, which is unprecedented since 2009 and the rate of the popular savings account jumps to 6.1%. In addition, the regulated electricity tariff is up 15%, which is equivalent to an average increase of around 20 euros per month for households.

And then soccer with the 21st day of Premier League which begins at 7 p.m. with Nantes-Marseille and Toulouse-Troyes, then at 9: Lyon - Brest, Montpellier - PSG and Monaco -Auxerre.