



The News

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by Sarah Heath

Questions are being asked as to how to follow up after yesterday's protests against pension reform. Workers' unions are meeting this morning to discuss next steps, twenty-four hours after a huge turnout on Labour Day, with unions stating that 2.3 million people came to protest in the streets although the figure was more like 780,000 according to the Ministry of the Interior.

It was a day which was marred by violence with around a hundred police officers having been injured, including one who was seriously hurt after being hit by a molotov cocktail.

Tons of fruit and vegetables are making their way across France after a two-month pause in this transportation route due to protests against pension reform. The early season train which connects Perpignan to Rungis, resumes service this morning. This train replaces the equivalent of using 9,000 lorries on French roads each year.

Caregivers who opted out of the vaccination against Covid could soon return to work. The Minister of Health has indicated that they will be able to return to their roles in mid-May. This decision is in line with the advice given by the High Authority on Health.

A former extra-curricular school employee will be tried today in Strasbourg for sexual assaults on children. The 45-year-old man allegedly assaulted 17 children between the ages of 6 and 14, between the years 2008 and 2021. He has already been in pre-trial detention for a year.

In the Côte d'Or, the former Mayor of Echenon, a small town near Dijon, will learn his fate today. Dominique Lott is accused of having downloaded thousands of images of child pornography. He had been arrested during a widespread investigation carried out in France 6 months ago.

One of France's great boxing hopes, Wilfred Florentin, was shot dead on Sunday after an argument in a bar. It happened in Bonneuil-sur-Marne in the Val-de-Marne. The alleged killer was arrested yesterday at Brussels airport as he was trying to leave for the Côte d'Ivoire, according to the Créteil prosecutor's office. He is due to be handed over to the French authorities in the coming days.

And finally to football news, where Toulouse returns to the field barely 3 days after their victory in the Coupe de France. They come up against Lens, for the 33rd day of Ligue 1. Kick-off is at 9 p.m.