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NEWS FLASHES.

Naval shipyard and building workers in Nantes, Western France, stage a big demonstration when their pay demands are answered with a lockout. Friction rises between demonstrators and police, and dummy policemen hanging from gibbets don't improve tempers. Police use tear gas to disperse the crowds.

In spite of these clashes, there are no serious disorders, and the demonstrators march on to the Prefect's Office to protest against the lockout.

Over to Falmouth harbour, where two German girls and an Englishman are getting ready to cross the Atlantic in a sailing boat which only cost £200.

The girls are Ruth Marschberger and Jutta Schultze-Rheinhof. Their skipper is Jim Wharran, a marine archaeologist. The craft is a Polynesian-type double-hulled catamaran, which they built themselves in Essex. Ruth cooks a meal in the tiny galley.

Their chart-table is a duckboard, and their chronometer's an alarm clock - but they've sailed her a thousand miles already, so why not to the West Indies?